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Israel threatens Wye walkout

Molcho and Ross meet as talks falter over extradition and covenant



Binyamin Netanyahu's spokesman, speaks on his cellular phone press center in Maryland yesterday. (Reuters)

By DANNA HARMAN and HILLEL KUTTLER

QUEENSTOWN, Maryland — The Wye summit was in crisis last night, as Israeli negotiators threatened to walk out, accusing the US of going back on its word and the Palestinians of evasion.

The future of the talks appeared to hinge on a late night session between US envoy Dennis Ross and Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu's adviser Yitzhak Molcho, who were working on a legal document aimed at bridging the gaps between the US and Israeli positions.

"Israel sees the Palestinians zig-zagging," said Netanyahu's spokesman Avigdor Kahalani. "They promised us working papers and plans for the fight against terrorism. Until now, we've seen no such thing."

But Bushinsky also indicated in an interview with Channel 2 that the

final decision to leave the talks hadn't been made. "We are in a situation of, let's say, engines idling and standing by." At press time, the Israeli delegation had a contingency plan to fly home.

Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat appealed by telephone to Netanyahu to stay, so they could "achieve an agreement as soon as possible," according to his adviser Ahmed Tibi.

"We are at a critical moment... We can't answer the question of which way this will go. The United States can only do so much," said State Department spokesman James Rubin. Channel 1 reported that the security cabinet, was discussing an American initiative presented to the Israeli delegation by Secretary of State Madeleine Albright.

After his meeting with Albright, Netanyahu's office put out a statement saying that the American initiative is unacceptable in that Israel

won't withdraw its demands that the Palestine National Council be convened to abrogate parts of the Palestinian Covenant or that terrorists be extradited.

"We are going to leave for sure," a top official told *The Jerusalem Post* after Albright handed ministers the initiative — but based on an understanding that the Israeli delegation would return in a week or two to conclude the talks.

The US proposal, said an Israeli negotiator, is "completely unacceptable." Another official put it this way: "We have been tricked."

Rubin said the US initiative, which apparently includes letters of assurance to the parties, is a codification of the understandings reached up to this point. Its presentation, he added, should be seen as "a sign of the criticality of the moment."

"We are at a critical moment, a moment of intensity and impor-

ance. What the result of this will be is up to the leaders — and the US can only do so much to try to create the climate, the solutions, the ideas, and the creativity to advance the security and the interests of both peoples," Rubin told reporters.

"We can't answer the question of which way this will go. We are working and expecting to work today to try to work on a text, and at some point today the president and the secretary will speak to decide what a role, if any, the president will play."

Bushinsky told reporters earlier that in the absence of Palestinian commitments on changing the covenant and extraditing terrorists, there could be no deal.

According to Bushinsky, Netanyahu said exactly this to Clinton during their meeting Tuesday night.

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Points of contention and agreement

By DANNA HARMAN

QUEENSTOWN, Maryland — The main areas of contention in the talks as of late last night were:

- The question of convening the PNC to abrogate parts of the Palestinian National Covenant: The Israelis are insisting on this, the Palestinians are refusing;
- The extradition of prisoners: The Palestinians say they will arrest the prisoners, and the CIA will ensure they remain in jail, while the Israelis say this is not enough;
- The confiscation of weapons: Israel is demanding they be confiscated and transferred to Israel, the Palestinians refuse;
- The third redeployment: Israel originally felt it had the US's backing for a one-percent redeployment, but now this is up in the air, with the Palestinians continuing to demand a substantial withdrawal.

They say Palestinians would not commit to jail and try alleged killers of Israelis — Israel has apparently dropped a demand the Palestinians hand over the suspects — and were not willing to arrest a list of 120 terrorists.

• Palestinians say their draft security plan is complete and acceptable to all sides.

• Both sides say no clear roadmap linking Palestinian security measures with the phased land transfers has yet been agreed.

The following are the main points of agreement: • The sides agree Israel will redeploy its troops from an additional 13 percent of the West Bank — 3%

of which is designated to be a "nature reserve" with limits on Palestinian powers — in a phased pullback over 12 weeks linked to Palestinian steps to deter anti-Israel violence.

Israel will also transfer 14.2% of the West Bank now under joint Palestinian-Israeli rule to full Palestinian control. The land transfers are the second of three pullbacks mandated under a 1995 interim peace deal.

• The sides have agreed on protocols to open an airport and an industrial park in PA-controlled Gaza.

News agencies contributed to this report.

Molchedet files confidence motion

By LIAT COLLINS

As snatches of information from Wye Plantation trickled into the Knesset yesterday, mainly via the media, MKs began preparing for the next no-confidence motion. They weren't disappointed.

Molchedet leader Rehavam Ze'evi delivered the goods, citing, "The prime minister's giving in to [Palestinian Authority Chairman] Yasser Arafat and handing over parts of the homeland to the PLO."

The no-confidence motion should be debated and voted on on Monday, just before Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu's political address, which could include an agreement reached at the Maryland summit.

Coalition and Likud whip Meir Sheetrit, however, estimated that a peace agreement presented by Netanyahu would have a firm majority in the Knesset.

"Even the agreement's opponents

know that there is no better diplomatic way of protecting the State's interests. Any person on the Right who has a part in bringing down the government and creating a leftist government will have sinned towards Israel. Only a Likud government can deliver an agreement at the lowest possible price," he said.

But hardliners were not convinced. MK Michael Kleiner (Geshet) held an emergency meeting of the Land of Israel Front, attended by 12 MKs.

He said if the agreement is signed on the terms now being discussed, "We will become part of the opposition in every sense."

The Front decided to pressure ministers not to support the agreement and to work with the Council of Jewish Communities in Judea, Samaria and Gaza to increase demonstrations at junctions and outside the cabinet's weekly meeting this Sunday.

If the agreement is approved by the cabinet, the Front MKs will support a move to advance the elections and will vote against the 1999 budget, he said. He also said the Front would poll people on an alternative candidate to Netanyahu.

MK Uzi Landau (Likud), head of the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee, said that Monday might be the first time he is forced to vote no confidence in a Likud government. He said the agreement as it now appears would cause "an earthquake" within the Likud and hinted that it would lead him to consider supporting a different candidate to head the party.

MK Ruby Rivlin (Likud), who voted against the Hebron Agreement, said he would vote against the agreement reached at Wye. He called for the party central committee to convene "to discuss where the Likud is going."

See MOLEDET, Page 2

Students launch strike after clashes with police

By ARYEH DEAN COHEN

Violent clashes between students and police and the arrest of some 50 students led the National Union of Israeli Students to launch its threatened strike a half day early yesterday, sending some 71,000 students who had already begun their studies to rallies or home in the afternoon.

Seven students in Tel Aviv required medical treatment for injuries, according to student sources.

Student leaders reported that the police used clubs on female students at the Kibbutzim College of Education in Tel Aviv while breaking up a student rally there. Similar protests were held at the Technion, the David Yellin Teachers' College in Jerusalem, and at the college in Karmiel.

Last night, students began erecting tent cities on the campuses of the Technion and the colleges where the students plan to hold sit-down strikes.

The sanctions are expected to spread to the rest of the institutions of higher education on Sunday — affecting another 114,000 students — if no solution is found.

Student leaders arrested, including National Students Union chairman Lior Rothbart, said police used "unnecessary violence" against them, but police denied this.

Student leaders agreed to attend a planned meeting with Education Minister Yitzhak Levy this morning only on condition that Tel Aviv University student organization head Erez Eshel, the only student still under arrest, be released.

Knesset Education Committee chairman Emanuel Zissmann was



A student protester is arrested by police for blocking a junction on the Tel Aviv-Haifa Highway outside Ramat Aviv yesterday. (Dan Ehrlich)

also scheduled to be at the meeting, which was to address the students' demands to cut tuition in half. University tuition runs about NIS 11,000. Some college fees are higher.

All the student leaders held at the Ramat Gan jail, with the exception of Eshel, were released at about 9 p.m., after both Levy and Knesset Interior Committee chairman Micha Goldman intervened.

according to student spokesman Shmuelik Algrabi. He said it was unclear why Eshel was not released.

Leaving the jail, Rothbart said: "I am sad today. What I saw today are the signs of a totalitarian state. Not one student raised a hand against a policeman. If the government thinks it can break the students with blows and arrests, it is mistaken." Tel Aviv police chief Cmdr.

Shlomo Aharonishky defended his men's behavior. "We didn't lose our cool. We know where the lines are drawn, that we must allow people to demonstrate and protest, but not like this, not with serious expressions of violence," he told Educational Television's *Erev Hadash*.

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There is no real 'safety net'

ANALYSIS

By SARAH HONIG

Coalition whip Meir Sheetrit exuded complacency yesterday, insisting that no political cataclysm would be triggered by any deal Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu might bring home with him.

"So what if everyone in the Land of Israel Front votes no-confidence in the government? They would only usher Labor into a coalition with the Likud and this could be a formula stable enough not only for this Knesset's term, but even for the next," he said.

But it was difficult to find any-

one else in the Likud who subscribes to his optimism. Traces could be discerned in The Third Way's Avigdor Kahalani's assertion that "a peace agreement will strengthen rather than weaken the government."

But he could not explain how and stopped short of predicting a national unity coalition.

Elsewhere in the coalition — even among those who are sure to toe Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu's line, whatever it turns out to be — the mood was dark and predictions of early elections, should media hype about a deal be

borne out, were rife.

The consensus in the Likud is that Netanyahu will be unable to secure a majority within his own coalition for whatever deal he may be putting together. An agreement, said Likud pundits, could squeeze through the cabinet, where there are enough of the prime minister's yes-men. It may even pass the Knesset, where the opposition on the Left will vote for it.

But this will be precisely when Netanyahu's troubles will actually begin, they said. Their are more than enough MKs to his Right to bring him down — and this need not occur when the agreement is submitted for Knesset approval. The government can fall any time afterward, on any issue.

See SAFETY NET, Page 2



NEWS

in brief

Non-religious IDF funerals now permitted

Chief of General Staff Lt.-Gen. Shaul Mofaz has issued instructions to review the IDF's regulations regarding military funerals to allow families of the fallen to alter them and remove religious practices.

Mofaz's action came after a meeting yesterday with the family of Staff-Sgt. Doron Zohar who was killed in Lebanon earlier this month. Because his family refused to bury him with a rabbi present, the IDF refused to perform the standard military funeral. Zohar was buried in a civilian ceremony on his kibbutz. Former chief of general staff Amnon Lipkin Shahak heavily criticized the IDF's decision.

Yesterday, Mofaz visited Zohar's parents on Kibbutz Lahav to express the IDF's condolences. Doron's family raised the matter and afterward Mofaz released a statement which said the rules would be made more flexible. *Arieh O'Sullivan*

Rights activist worried over Wye accords

A leading Palestinian human rights activist said yesterday he is concerned that the security accords being drafted at Wye Plantation would lead to more repressive measures by the PA and Israel against Palestinians. He also warned that draconian measures that he asserted are being proposed by Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu to counter terrorism would fail.

"In focusing entirely on the security issue and the need to combat terrorism, Netanyahu is guaranteeing the death of the process of reconciliation and peace that began five years ago," said Bassem Eid, director of the Palestinian Human Rights Monitoring Group.

Eid added that in an effort to satisfy Israeli demands, the PA has taken to prosecuting, convicting and sentencing suspected terrorists within hours of their capture. *Steve Rodan*

PA in financial trouble

The Palestinian Authority faces a collapse of vital services as officials are unable to pay salaries and donor funds fail to arrive, officials said yesterday.

At this point, the PA crisis focuses on health and water services. Hospitals in the Bethlehem area have been paralyzed by the PA failure to pay salaries.

In all, officials said, the Health Ministry needs an immediate NIS 10 million. But they said the Finance Ministry has been withholding the transfer of funds.

Officials said the crisis has been exacerbated by the recent devaluation of the shekel, which has eroded Palestinian salaries by at least five percent. *Steve Rodan*

Blumenthal: Rescind Tibi's citizenship

MK Naomi Blumenthal (Likud) has called on Interior Minister Eli Shais to rescind Ahmed Tibi's citizenship in view of his being part of the official Palestinian Authority delegation at the peace negotiations at Wye Plantation.

"Tibi has violated Clause 11 of the Citizenship Law breaching the faith to the State of Israel by serving on the delegation and negotiating with the country of which he is a citizen," Blumenthal said. "This is not the first time that Tibi is acting as if he has dual citizenship and therefore I ask you to fully bring this to justice and rescind his citizenship as soon as possible." *Liat Collins*

With deep sorrow we announce the passing on October 21, 1998 of our beloved

NOA KARIN RAVON

Deeply mourned by:

Her loving mother, Joy

Her sister, brother-in-law and nephew,

Gia, Eddy and Yaron Ben-David

Her fiancé, Asif Goldstein

and the Moss-Rendell family

The shiva will be held at the Ben-David family home, Rehov Hashnaim 16a, Givatayim. Telephone: 03-670-1622

With deep shock and sorrow, we announce the untimely passing of our colleague

Dr. HENRY WAKSBERG

A very special person, loved by all who knew him, who will be remembered also for his professional excellence in dentistry, and will be missed by his colleagues, friends, and patients.

Our condolences to his dear wife and three children.

Dr. Samuel Abrahamson
Dr. Hillel Baruch
Dr. Robert Sreter
and the staff of Migdal Hashen Dental Clinic, Jerusalem
Dr. Elchanan Greenwald
Dr. Eli Prenzlau and staff
Dr. Larry Klaristenfeld
Dr. Joshua Daniel
and Terry Goodman

Raanana City Bowls Club
mourns the death of its past President

HERSCHEL KOLEVSHON

The members extend their deepest sympathies to Myrna and the family.

The Anti-Defamation League
mourns the passing of

Father EDWARD H. FLANNERY

a pioneer of Christian-Jewish reconciliation,
a man of abundant courage and righteousness
and great love for the Jewish people

Abraham H. Foxman National Director
Rabbi David Rosen Director, ADL-Israel
Howard P. Berkowitz National Chairman

Turkey, Syria reach agreement

ANKARA (Reuters) — Turkey declared yesterday it considered a crisis with Syria over Kurdish rebels to be over, but warned it reserved the right to use armed force if Damascus failed to observe an agreement.

Newspapers portrayed a deal reached, according to Turkish officials, at secret talks late on Tuesday as a triumph for the vociferous hard-line campaign Ankara launched against Syria three weeks ago.

"Damascus Gives In," read a headline in the liberal *Sabah* newspaper. "Syria Bows," trumpeted the popular *Milyer* daily of the

dispute that some feared could escalate into a broader conflict between NATO member Turkey and the Arab world.

A Syrian spokesman later confirmed the deal, describing the talks as "positive and frank."

"The Syrian side reiterated that... the Kurdistan Workers Party (PKK) is illegal and has no license, no bases or camps in Syria," the spokesman said.

Defense Ministry spokesman Avi Benayahu said that Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai was at Wye Plantation and had no

comment on the deal.

Turkey had threatened to use armed force against Syria if it failed to close down camps on Syrian soil which it said were being used by Turkish Kurd rebels. It also demanded that the man who has led the campaign for 14 years be handed over or expelled from Syria.

Turkish Foreign Ministry spokesman Necati Utkan told a briefing the deal, negotiated by security and political officials, appeared to meet Ankara's demands. But, he added, a note of warning to Syria, which has

maintained throughout the crisis that it has no links to the PKK or its leader Abdullah "Apo" Ocalan.

"Syria extends its hand of friendship to us. If everything is realized in the framework of the agreement, we will shake this hand," he said. "If we consider the worst scenario and think that this will not be realized, our military measures will be enforced at this stage."

Several Arab countries, suspicious of the defense ties between Turkey and Israel, see the hand of Israel in the crisis.

Arieh O'Sullivan contributed to this report.



Protests continue

Palestinians block the main road of Gush Katif during a protest yesterday. The protesters urged Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat to secure the release of 3,400 Palestinians jailed in Israel. (Reuters)

MOLEDET

Continued from Page 1

MK Ze'ev Begin (Likud) said, "According to the news from the US, the prime minister has decided to gamble at Arafat's casino."

National Religious Party MKs also spoke of toppling the government and changing the prime minister, but MK Alex Lubotzky (Third Way), whose party supports an agreement, said the NRP threats "are like a gun with no bullets."

On the left, MK Yossi Beilin (Labor) said that those MKs who support MoleDET's no-confidence

motion "will find themselves in splendid isolation."

"The only real chance of a no-confidence motion passing is if the prime minister returns without an agreement," he added.

The heads of opposition party factions, headed by Labor whip Elie Goldschmidt, met to decide how to act. They stopped short of offering a blanket safety net for the future, but decided to back the government in this specific case. The opposition does not intend to support the no-confidence motion on Monday, although it is not clear whether opposition members will oppose it or just abstain or absent

themselves.

A no-confidence motion requires the support of at least 61 MKs to pass.

Labor leader Ehud Barak called on Netanyahu to sign and implement a full agreement on the second further redeployment and immediately enter talks on the final status arrangements.

"Only a full agreement and separation from the Palestinians will bring about peace and personal security for the citizens of Israel," Barak said.

He said the party would provide a specific safety net in cases which further peace.

Prayer flight nearly crashes

It could be a bad omen for the Wye Plantation summit.

A plane chartered by a prominent rabbi to encircle Israel seven times and deliver prayers for the successful conclusion of the Mideast peace talks was forced to make an emergency landing.

A little more than an hour into Monday's flight, the small plane's electrical system malfunctioned.

"We changed the subject of the prayers from the plight of the Israeli people to our plight," said Yitzhak Batshi, the son of Rabbi David Batshi and one of four passengers aboard. "My father... called out the names of chapters in Psalms, chapters named after angels, and then he asked them to come and help."

The pilot eventually brought the plane down safely, and Yitzhak Batshi said the passengers' deliverance was proof that a similar miracle could happen at the talks. (AP)

SAFETY NET

Continued from Page 1

If the Right is resolute enough to avenge what it sees as Netanyahu's brazen betrayal, then nothing can stop it. The safety net supposedly offered by the Left is, as Labor whip Elie Goldschmidt put it, "so full of holes, it can't keep anyone from falling right through and shattering on the hard ground."

Labor Party chairman Ehud Barak has been saying all along that his party will offer to vote for a deal on the single occasion in which it is presented to the Knesset, but beyond that, Netanyahu is on his own.

The entire left-wing opposition agreed on this very limited, one-

time support. Shimon Peres's idea of more prolonged protection, at least for the full three months it would take for the pullback to be completed, was shot down.

If on-the-record utterances are to be believed, Netanyahu will be abandoned by most of the Left. It is doubtful that even the handful of Peres loyalists would dare to resist the will of the majority. Their votes, in any case, would not suffice to make a difference.

A number of Likud insiders claimed that Netanyahu confided in them, prior to his departure for the US, that if he considers his government threatened, he will himself go to the president and ask for new elections in about 60 days. Some of them argued that speed would be important for Netanyahu to prevent the creation of new par-

ties.

But most in the Likud say speed is essential because of the danger that whatever deal emerges from Wye will unravel very quickly. Hence, it would be wiser to go to the polls before a major crisis manifests itself.

Such talk is "a transparent attempt to intimidate us on the assumption that we are afraid of elections and thus would be wary of bringing down the government," said Education Minister Yitzhak Levy (National Religious Party). "But bluffs will not work now, because we are not bluffing. If Netanyahu makes a deal, we will have no reason to keep supporting him and the Left will have no incentive to prop him up. Netanyahu will self-destruct. It's as simple as that."

STUDENTS

Continued from Page 1

ETV reported that the police had been promised by student leaders that the rallies would remain within the campuses. However Gil Baroni, one of the student leaders, said that no such promise had been

made, and other demonstrators complained that it was the police who had pushed them into the streets.

Tension began building early yesterday morning, when the police, looking to head off any potential unrest, summoned nine student leaders to police stations near where they live for question-

ing. Algrabi said the nine, which included several who were later arrested, would have ignored the summonses even had they not been arrested at the protests. A police spokeswoman confirmed that the students had been summoned, but would not say why. *Itim contributed to this report.*

WYE

Continued from Page 1

The initiative, said a top Israeli official, included no promises on these matters.

"The Americans have retreated from previous understandings with the Israelis, and the Palestinians are not willing to give clear answers about their commitments on different issues,"

said another Israeli official.

"For now, we don't see a deal on the horizon, but if there is, it will be on condition that [the Palestinians] fulfill all our security interests," Bushinsky said.

A top US official said in response that Israel's claim that the Palestinians had "offered nothing" is baseless and unacceptable.

Arafat's appeal to stay came along with his wishes to Netanyahu, who turned 49 yesterday, for a happy birthday. Arafat also sent a bouquet of flowers, Tibi said.

Israeli preparations for departure, including packing their bags and placing them on their porches, came as the two delegations exchanged accusations after seven days of talks.

Netanyahu's office said Israeli suitcases were to be transferred to the airport, and that the plane would take off at 10 p.m.

"If there is progress we will still stay, if not we will go," the state-ment said.

Rubin, while not naming Israel,

confirmed that logistical requests for handling a departure had been made.

The Israeli threat came like a bolt from the blue at the peace conference, which had broken up for the night early yesterday on a much more optimistic note.

The Palestinians took the Israeli threat more lightly than the US, dismissing it as "political blackmail" and a last-minute tactic to extract more concessions.

"What crisis?" one Palestinian negotiator said. "We were not informed by either the Israelis or the Americans, therefore we believe that the Israelis are trying to press the Americans to blackmail us."

"We think it is a game," said another. A senior US official also evinced skepticism. "You can predict that there will be some posturing going on in talks like these. One minute there's an agreement, and the next there's no hope. The parties will decide," he said.

News agencies contributed to this report.

Israel Airports Authority

Request for Information regarding Mobile Command Post for Ben-Gurion Int'l Airport

1. The Israel Airports Authority is interested in receiving information regarding mobile command post specially designed to be used as a mobile unit for command control and supervision during emergency events.
2. Suppliers/manufacturers in this field should meet all the requirements and specifications which can be obtained at the purchasing department office at Ben-Gurion Int'l Airport, main terminal, second floor, room 233 (fax: 972-3-9721723) until November 5, 1998.
3. The R.F.I. documents should be delivered no later than November 26, 1998 to: Purchasing Department Israel Airports Authority P.O. Box 7 Ben-Gurion Int'l Airport, Israel 70100
4. For the avoidance of any doubt, it is declared and emphasized explicitly, that this publication made by the I.A.A. is intended only for collecting information.

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greement

שכר מן הארץ

PA rounds up Hamas members

By STEVE RODAN,
MOHAMMED NAJIB
and AMY KLEIN

The Palestinian Authority has arrested at least 30 Hamas suspects in Hebron, including a leader of a local Islamic terrorist cell, witnesses and PA security sources said yesterday.

The terrorist cell leader was identified as Mohammad Natshe, who PA sources said was arrested two weeks ago when a bomb factory was discovered in his home.

PA security agents rounded up at least 15 activists in Hebron on Tuesday in connection with the capture of Salem Sarsour, the Hebron man who threw two hand grenades in Beersheba the previous day.

The PA sources said their arrests are based on hard information, including an intercepted letter from Jordanian Hamas leader Khalid Mash'al to Natshe. In the letter, Mash'al discusses the activities of Hamas's Izzedin Kassam terrorist wing and refers to its members by their initials.

The result, the sources said, was the PA arrest of 16 other Hamas members over the last two weeks. The detentions are part of what a PA security source said was an

operation to arrest at least 50 people identified as potential inciters or organizers of violence against Israel.

A PA spokesman claimed that Sarsour was also an agent for the General Security Services. He said Sarsour began serving the GSS in August and met with GSS agents in September.

A senior PA security source said Sarsour was one of several Hamas members who serve as double agents, providing information on the Islamic movement to Israel.

But the editor of the Gaza-based Hamas weekly *al-Risala*, Ghazi Hamad, denied these allegations. He told *The Jerusalem Post* that Sarsour was not a double agent and worked only for Hamas.

A Hamas spokesman in Hebron, Abdul Netsha, also denied that Sarsour was a GSS collaborator.

"Sarsour's Hamas colleagues do not believe that he could be a collaborator," Netsha said, adding that Sarsour "might have verbally made promises to the GSS" but "while Sarsour was connected to the GSS, he was working against the occupation."

"Someone working for the GSS would not carry out an attack against Israeli targets," Netsha said.

Settlers, fearing agreement, block Ramallah-Nablus road

By MARGOT DUDKEVITCH

Settlers blocked a section of the Ramallah-Nablus highway yesterday for over an hour amid concerns the government was backing down on security demands in order to obtain a West Bank agreement.

Settlers said they would continue with further protests and would today block highways at fifteen intersections in Judea and Samaria, beginning at 6:30 in the morning. They have called for hundreds to turn out.

Settler leaders say that during their campaign against a West Bank deal, they will, if necessary, take over hilltops near existing communities to safeguard land.

Some 50 to 60 settlers from Beit El, Talmonim and Dolev stood yesterday in the middle of the Ramallah-Nablus highway, their heads covered in prayer shawls. The road is used primarily by Palestinians, with settlers favoring a bypass road.

The IDF and police did not move the settlers off the road in order to allow Palestinian vehicles to pass by.

Police at the site videotaped the settlers and warned action would be taken against them. Palestinian drivers opted for side roads rather than being caught in traffic jams. The protesters said they had been "sold out" by the government.

Meir Gross of Beit El said the protest was "a battle to protect our homes." Meanwhile, members of the Council of Jewish Communities in Judea, Samaria and Gaza intensified their lobbying



IDF soldiers look on as praying settlers block the Ramallah-Nablus highway yesterday in a protest against a possible agreement with the Palestinians. (Israel Sun)

in the Knesset and called on MK's to warn Netanyahu that the nationalist camp would not stand by and allow him to retract guarantees and cave in to US pressure.

Council spokeswoman Yehudit Tayar said the settlers were not

demonstrating against Netanyahu but rather were calling on him to stand firmly on his convictions.

"We are demonstrating in order to alert the public of the dangers they will face if any further land is handed over to the PA," she said. In

a separate incident, settlers from the Jordan Valley said that an army base near Ma'aleh Ephraim was being dismantled.

The settlers warned that the move would harm security in the area and showed the government

had changed its security conception of the Jordan Valley.

The IDF Spokesman said the move was a routine change in the framework of an annual project and that the base would continue to operate.

Cabinet vote on an agreement to be close

By SARAH HONIG

The political arena yesterday was consumed by speculation about Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's chances to push any agreement he might bring home from Wye Plantation through his cabinet.

The consensus was that it would be a narrow squeeze, but that a deal might win approval, provided that it does not involve too many glaring concessions and too many obvious failures to achieve the insisted upon security guarantees.

This, a number of ministers said, is the key element.

"If an agreement is at all forged in Wye, it would have to be a very good one, from our point of view, to win a cabinet majority," said Tourism Minister Moshe Katsav. "If it lacks elements on which there was unanimous insistence in the cabinet, then even moderate ministers would be hard put to support it. Even ministers who are most likely to side with Netanyahu would have a hard time doing so if the agreement falls too short of the minimum we can live with."

"I therefore can't say if I will vote for a deal that might be emerging. It would all depend on what the deal is. The government agreed on nine principles from which the negotiators were expected not to deviate. The test will now be to see if there were deviations."

Science Minister Silvan Shalom also says that "the all-important element is whether there are deviations from government positions in whatever agreement might be brought before us. It will be impossible to support a deal that does not satisfy minimal require-

ments."

Shalom is nevertheless counted among the ministers likely in the end to vote with Netanyahu, as are Yitzhak Mordechai, Yaakov Neeman, Yehoshua Matza, Avigdor Kahalani, Eli Yishai, and Eliahu Suissa.

Sure to oppose a possible deal are Rafael Eitan, Limor Livnat, Tzahi Hanegbi, Yitzhak Levy, Shaul Yahalom, and Yuli Edelstein. Edelstein says that he cannot see his fellow Yisrael Ba'aliya colleague, Natan Sharansky, part of the Wye negotiating team, as "likely to support anything less than the minimum this government outlined before the summit."

Political observers agree, counting Sharansky among the uncommitted ministers.

In the Likud, there are many who believe that Ariel Sharon's vote for a deal is not in the bag either, despite of his pivotal role at the talks.

In the end the fate of any deal will hinge on the ability of either side to convince some of the undecided ministers.

"The debate may be so acrimonious and the vote so close that any individual minister from among the 17 in the cabinet could cast the deciding vote," says Shalom.

Levy warned that "if Netanyahu comes back with a deal we cannot accept, we will move immediately to push the early elections bill through the Knesset. I informed the prime minister of this and he is under no illusions."

Highly-placed Likud sources reported yesterday that Netanyahu said he would himself initiate early elections if he considers that his government is doomed.

Terror victims' parents go on hunger strike

By MARGOT DUDKEVITCH

Concerned with reports that Israel had agreed to back down on insisting that the Palestinians extradite terrorists, three parents who lost their children in terrorist attacks started a hunger strike outside the Prime Minister's Office yesterday afternoon.

Rabbi Menachem Felix, whose daughter Ofra was murdered in January 1995, Joyce Boim whose son David was gunned down in May 1996, and Rabbi Elhanan Bin-Nun whose son Harel was killed together with Shlomo Liebman at Yitzhar in August, vowed to continue their strike until they receive assurances that the government is not "selling them out."

An anguished Boim said families who lost their loved ones in terrorist attacks had been promised by Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and other government officials that there would be no further withdrawals until the Palestinians complied with Israel's demand to hand over the "murderers of their loved ones."

Boim said the group received a report from the delegation of families of terrorist victims currently at the Wye Plantation who met with Foreign Minister Ariel Sharon, who informed them that Israel had agreed to allow the CIA to monitor the whereabouts of the terrorists instead of extradition, she said.

"Netanyahu promised there would be no signature without reciprocity by the Palestinians. What is Arafat giving us?" she said.

Felix said he hoped they would be proven wrong, adding "hope is the only thing that keeps us going."

Meanwhile, West Bank Preventive Security Chief Jibril Rajoub told Channel 1 that the PA would never extradite Palestinian prisoners to Israel.

"That will never happen," Rajoub vowed. "We won't extradite anyone... If a Palestinian breaks the law, we have jails, and we can take steps to carry out our side of the agreement."

Tzurif terrorists get five life sentences

also was sentenced to an additional 20 years in prison and Jamal Hor, 28, was given an 18-year prison term.

They both told the court that they did not regret their acts.

The military court convicted them earlier Wednesday of being senior members of the Tzurif terror cell and responsible for a series of attacks that killed at least 11 Israelis and wounded 49.

The two had been captured by

IDF troops last November near Nablus after undercover troops intercepted a Palestinian internal security van trying to smuggle them from Hebron to Nablus.

Ghanimat and Hor had topped Israel's wanted list and their capture sparked accusations in the West Bank that Palestinian police had delivered them to the Israelis.

The Tzurif Hamas cell centered around the West Bank village of Tzurif and was responsible for

five drive-by shootings in the summer of 1996.

The cell also kidnapped and murdered St-Sgt. Sharon Edri and buried him near the village.

The cell was eventually broken when one member blew himself up, apparently unintentionally, in the fatal bombing of the Apropro Cafe in Tel Aviv in March 1997.

Two other members of the Tzurif Hamas cell were captured by Israel in April 1997 and

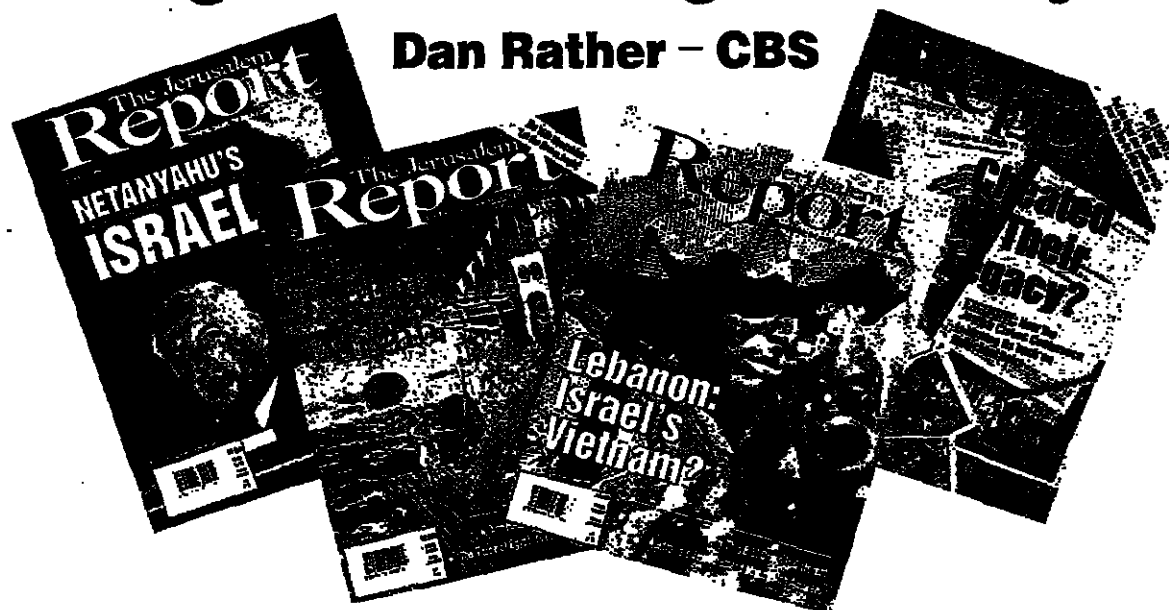
already have been sentenced. Another member is still at large and believed to be hiding in Palestinian Authority-controlled territory.

Earlier this year, a member of the cell made the news when he tried to justify his actions by citing comments made by Labor Party leader Ehud Barak. Barak said that had he been a Palestinian he would have been a Hamas or Fatah fighter.

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Convicted spy's lawyers claim:

Security agents encouraged Manbar

By BATSHEVA TSUR

Security agents expressly encouraged Nahum Manbar to maintain ties with the Iranians in the years 1992-93, lawyers for the convicted spy have said.

The agents then used documents which Manbar handed over to them from the same period as supporting evidence for their charges against him during his recent trial, the lawyers contended.

This emerges from an appeal to the Supreme Court submitted on behalf of Manbar this week. The court yesterday permitted publication of the details in the appeal.

In July, Manbar was sentenced to 16 years' imprisonment for aiding the enemy in its fight against Israel by selling chemical weapons material to Iran. His trial was held in camera.

According to Manbar, an agent whom he knew as "Dan" pushed him to send people to Iran to instruct the Iranians in the use of equipment as part of one of his business deals. Information which they brought back was then used

against Manbar, his lawyers say in the appeal.

The central witness against Manbar was a Polish citizen identified only as K. But, Manbar's lawyers contend, he was a state witness who received numerous benefits including the promise that he would not be brought to trial for the very charges that were brought against Manbar, and that he would not be interrogated by "foreign agents."

The appeal calls on the Supreme Court to overturn the entire trial which was held in the Tel Aviv District Court, on the grounds that there were improper relations between advocate Pinat Yanai, who originally joined Manbar's defense team, and presiding judge Amnon Strashnov in whose office she had worked.

According to the appeal, the relations between Yanai and Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's spokesman at the time, Shai Bazak, as well as the head of the GSS interrogation team were also improper.

Manbar's lawyers claim the trial

should also be invalidated because of the blackout imposed by the prime minister on details concerning the case. Because of this, they claim, not all the facts could be exposed by Manbar during the trial while the state could choose what to reveal and what not.

The fact that the state failed to observe the blackout and revealed, for example, that two agents were killed while on the trail of Manbar should have also given Manbar reciprocal rights to reveal classified information, they say, since the blackout was no longer valid.

"Neither the state nor any other body that has to keep something in the dark should be allowed to use these facts whenever convenient for his immediate needs," they say.

Arguing that the sentence imposed on Manbar was too heavy, the appeal states: "Contrary to what the prosecution charged, it was not proven that the appellant caused real harm to state security; it was proven that he did not act out of malice with the intention of harming the state of Israel and its security." It contributed to this report



Spot check

Border police stop a foreign worker yesterday at Mahaneh Yehuda in Jerusalem as part of continued security measures against possible attacks.

(Brian Hendler)

Israeli Police can investigate citizens gambling in Jericho

By BATSHEVA TSUR

The police will be responsible for looking into complaints about offenses committed by Israelis at the Oasis casino in Jericho, the Justice Ministry said yesterday. Police will pass their findings on to the State Attorney's Office, which will decide whether to prosecute.

Knesset Law Committee Chairman Hanan Portat, who is engaged in a campaign to stop Israelis from gambling, said he will bring the issue up shortly in the committee and ask Rubinstein to clarify the legal

position.

This is because Israeli law applies to Israeli citizens even when they are in Palestinian-controlled territory. According to the agreements between the two sides, the Palestinian Authority cannot prosecute Israeli citizens for offenses committed in PA-controlled areas.

But there is no intention to charge every Israeli who goes to the Oasis casino, located on the outskirts of PA-controlled Jericho – even though gambling is illegal in Israel, the ministry spokesperson said yesterday. Earlier media reports had said that Israelis would be barred from the casino.

Karmiel candidate under fire for anti-Arab remarks

Feldman told 'Ha'aretz' he would block Arabs from town

By BATSHEVA TSUR and DAVID RUDGE

Attorney-General Elyakim Rubinstein plans to look into racist remarks attributed to Avi Feldman, the Likud mayoral candidate in Karmiel, and if necessary, will weigh legal or administrative steps against him, the Justice Ministry said yesterday.

Although MK Micha Goldman (Labor) approached Rubinstein to bar Feldman from participating in the mayoral race, the lists have already been closed and Rubinstein can no longer intervene, ministry spokesperson Orit Shemesh said. But if he is elected, Rubinstein will decide what action must be taken.

Feldman was quoted, in an interview with 'Ha'aretz' yesterday, as saying that he would make non-residents of Karmiel pay exorbitant fees to enter parks in the town, so that the Arabs from the neighboring villages would no longer come there.

He also pledged to prevent Arabs from buying property and working in the town, calling it "the Jewish capital of the north."

In a similar case on Sunday, Rubinstein approached the central elections committee

with a request to disqualify the Moledet-Gesher-Tsomet list from the Upper Nazareth local council elections after its head, Ze'ev Hartmann made racial slurs against Arabs.

Feldman also was quoted as saying he opposed the proposed establishment of a Beduin community on the outskirts of Karmiel, saying that families there would expand and take over a nearby Jewish housing estate.

The Anti Defamation League yesterday called on Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu to disassociate the Likud from Feldman's platform.

The league said Feldman's proposals for preventing Israeli Arabs from living, working or spending their leisure time in Karmiel, as outlined in the 'Ha'aretz' interview, constituted bigoted and racist policies.

Even harsher criticism was voiced by Abed Inbitawi, spokesman for the monitoring committee of the Israeli Arab leadership.

He accused Feldman of advocating policies of segregation at best, and at worst an Israeli version of South Africa's former apartheid laws that separated blacks and whites.

"For some time we have been warning about

the possibility of support for fascist and racist phenomena in Israeli society in light of several incidents and now we hear this from local election candidates in Karmiel and Upper Nazareth," he said.

"The statements of these candidates are the bad fruits of the policies of non-peace, non-equality, negligence, discrimination and of (Jewish) settlement, of the present government," he added.

Karmiel Mayor Adi Eldar also denounced Feldman's comments, saying the Likud candidate was trying to inflame passions, despite the fact that Karmiel enjoys excellent relations with its Arab neighbors.

Eldar, who is also head of the Union of Local Authorities, said he was ashamed that there was a person in Karmiel who expressed racist views that were more suitable to "dark regimes."

"We have the kind of co-existence that could set an example for the rest of the country. Feldman is trying to set fire to these good relations in order to hurt me as mayor because he doesn't have any other issue on which to criticize me," said Eldar.

Shetreet: Olmert should be disqualified

By ELLI WOHLGELERHTER

Shimon Shetreet and his One Jerusalem Party have filed an appeal with the Jerusalem Magistrate's Court arguing that three of the top four candidates on Mayor Ehud Olmert's list should be disqualified, beginning with Olmert himself.

"According to the new law, it is not possible to combine two positions – member of Knesset and mayor or a member of city council," Shetreet said yesterday, at a news conference at Jerusalem's Beit Agon.

"For those who were already mayors [when the law was passed], they had a grace period to complete their term. But this is a new term, and therefore the new law applies to him as well, and this is a legal question that the court has to decide."

He also asked the court to disqualify the director-general of the Israel Electric Corporation, Rafi Peled, and former Labor Party Jerusalem secretary Haim Cohen.

Regarding Peled, Shetreet said that there has to be a separation between a government job and a political position, otherwise Peled will be faced with a conflict of interest.

"Every time, either as a member of the city council or as the director-general, he will have to disqualify himself whenever Jerusalem comes up, or something relating to Jerusalem," Shetreet said. "We are talking about a city which is almost 15 percent of the population, the economy and the infrastructure of Israel. He will have to disqualify himself so many times that it is not logical to allow him to stay in this position."

Method found to overcome incompatible bone-marrow

By JUDY SEGEL

Bone-marrow transplants that are mismatched can be as effective as those in which the tissue type of the donor and recipient are perfectly matched, as a result of a new method developed by scientists at the Weizmann Institute in Rehovot and Perugia University in Italy.

The results of their work are reported in today's issue of the *New England Journal of Medicine*, raising hopes among the 40 percent of terminal leukemia patients who seek a bone-marrow transplant but who can't find a perfectly matched donor among their relatives or any of the donor registries.

Prof. Yair Rainer of the Rehovot institute's immunology department and Dr. Massimo Martelli of Perugia's Policlinico Monteluce in Italy think their findings make it more likely that in the future, a suitable donor will be found for virtually every candidate for a bone-marrow transplant.

In order to combat the blood cancer, in which there is a quantitative imbalance among the various types of cells, the malignant bone marrow is destroyed with radiotherapy and chemotherapy and healthy bone marrow is transplanted to replace it. But if not compatible, the body's immune system attacks the newly introduced cells.

Normally, a donor and recipient are considered compatible when they are matched for all six immunological markers on their chromosomes three inherited from the mother and three from the father. In the new method, the donor and recipient need to be matched for only three markers.

Such a partial match is always found between parents and children, and there is a 75% chance of finding it between siblings. Even among the extended family, the chances of finding a partially compatible donor are fairly good.

The Weizmann-Perugia method is based on the use of massive doses of donor marrow; the donor is treated with hormone injections that release large numbers of stem cells from the bone marrow into the bloodstream.

In a procedure known as leukapheresis, the stem cells are selectively removed from blood withdrawn from the body, and the remaining blood is re-infused to the donor. In another crucial step, donated stem cells are then purified to erase the characteristics that contribute to rejection in mismatched transplants.

In the study, the Weizmann-Perugia team follow the results of dozens of such mismatched transplants performed on patients with high-risk acute myeloid leukemia or acute lymphoid leukemia between 1995 and 1997.

Of the 43 patients treated, 16 were free of disease when the study results were summed up. The rest of the patients were alive but had a relapse of leukemia, or had died of the disease or transplant-related complications.

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Local Conservative leader hails new 'Rabbi' Manual'

BY SHAI DAVIS

Knesset panel rejects fund transfer for hospitals

By JUDY SIEGEL and DAVID ZEV HARRIS

The one-month postponement of emergency schedules in the government and voluntary hospitals turned into an extension of just 24 hours, when the Knesset Finance Committee yesterday refused to transfer NIS 300 million to cover the health funds' debts to the hospitals.

The vote, which was supposed to be a formality after the Finance Ministry agreed to the transfer on Tuesday, constituted a wall-to-wall rebellion against the constant financial crises in the health system. The showdown was especially pushed by Likud MK Avraham Herschson, who, as chairman of Kupat Holim Leumi, wanted the money to be used by the health funds as they see fit.

Committee chairman Avraham Ravitz last night attacked the Treasury, saying: "We're sick and tired of all these tricks... It's unacceptable that every day one side fights the other."

The directors of the hospitals, who had been promised an immediate NIS 100 million by Health Minister Yehoshua Matza and Finance Minister Yaakov Neeman, were shocked, and decided to close down most of their institutions' activities immediately. But when Prime Minister's Office Director-General Moshe Leon asked for a 24-hour delay, the hospital directors reluctantly agreed to give him time to try to work things out.

"We hope the Finance Committee will come to their senses and cancel their decision," said Prof. Ya'acov Hart, head of the hospital directors' committee.

An emergency schedule would mean that all elective surgery is cancelled, outpatient clinics closed and other hospital activities reduced to a minimum at all hospitals owned by the government and voluntary organizations (such as Hadassah, Shaare Zedek, and Bikur Holim).

Matza declared after the committee vote that "it has been proven yet another time that without a comprehensive solution that involves the health funds and all the public hospitals, it's easy for MKs not to respond to the Finance Ministry's request."

He added that the rejection "is to be regretted," and called on Neeman to present a complete plan that will deal with all factors in the health system.

A month ago, the Finance Committee decided to transfer NIS

300 million to the health funds, but the government preferred that the money go directly to the hospitals, which are owed NIS 700 million by the insurers.

Clalit then turned to the High Court of Justice and obtained a temporary injunction preventing the transfer, but this injunction was lifted Tuesday on condition that the transfer not be made in lieu of the NIS 300 million owed to the health funds. This allowed the Treasury to try to transfer the money once again.

Neeman's spokesman Motti Sherf said that "the Treasury has done what it was obliged to do to enable the transfer of the money to prevent the crisis in the health service. Now it's the Finance Committee's problem and not ours."

Dr. Yoram Blachar, chairman of the Israel Medical Association

(IMA), said that even if the money had been transferred, the crisis in the health system would remain very deep. "It's unthinkable that every few months, in a permanent ritual, the health funds and the hospitals threaten to cancel services and only then the Treasury tries to find a temporary answer to a serious crisis instead of finding a permanent solution once and for all... The solution is in the hands of the Treasury, which is not doing enough to resolve the issue."

Blachar accused the Finance Ministry of aiming to abrogate the National Health Insurance Law.

Meanwhile, the heads of all the health funds, the IMA, health consumer organizations and the public hospital yesterday launched a public campaign calling on Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu to find a solution to the crisis.

NEWS

in brief

Austrian bank to give payout to Nazi victims

An Austrian savings bank said yesterday it would pay out the remaining balance of accounts looted by the Nazis during World War II to the holders' relatives, but could promise no further payments.

The Austrian post office savings bank, Oesterreichische Postsparkasse (PSK), said it was trying to track down the relatives to pay them the remaining money, which probably amounted to no more than \$191,100. "We want to find the heirs through the Internet and, if they have documents to prove they are the heirs, we will pay them," a spokeswoman for PSK said. Reuters

Protest: Women excluded from PM summit

Women were excluded from last week's Prime Minister's Jubilee Business Summit, businesswoman Pina Rosenblum complained yesterday during a seminar on women's status in Israel sponsored by Beth Hatefutsoth.

"Why were women not invited to the prime minister's conference? Isn't it unjust that it was a conference just for men? Are there not enough women heading companies here and abroad?" asked Rosenblum, who plans to run for the Knesset. Jerusalem Post Staff

Policeman suspected of aiding car thieves

Border policeman Tomer Grinshtein, 20, of Netanya was charged in the Tel Aviv Magistrate's Court yesterday for taking bribes in exchange for allowing stolen Israeli cars to be smuggled into Palestinian Authority territory.

Grinshtein, who was arrested on the basis of intelligence information, is alleged to have known that the cars were stolen and permitted them to cross without checking them. He was remanded in custody for six days. Ilim

German president plans visit

German President Roman Herzog is due to arrive on November 16 for a two-day visit. The trip is being billed as private, and he is expected to open a center for German Studies at Ben-Gurion University of the Negev.

Herzog plans to visit Yad Vashem, the grave of Yitzhak Rabin, and the Knesset, then fly with President Ezer Weizman to the university, which will award him an honorary doctorate.

The following day he will briefly visit Jericho and then cross to Jordan for a state visit. Ilim

NII streamlines paperwork for cancer patients

Cancer patients who want National Insurance benefits will no longer have to undergo a stressful and sometimes demeaning medical hearing. With help from the Israel Cancer Association (ICA), the NII agreed that applicants' doctors could fill out forms instead.

A study financed by the ICA found that many who have been through the hearing process felt strangled by red tape and embarrassed by the ordeal.

A committee was set up and it was agreed to create an express system for transmitting data from the oncology institutes to the NII. A special form will be filled out by the doctor treating the applicant asking for an allocation, special services or nursing care. Judy Siegel

Babies survive 5-meter fall

Two babies, aged nine months and two years, yesterday fell five meters from the top of a stairwell to the ground in a building in the village of Maghar, near Tiberias - and luckily sustained only light injuries. Their mother heard their cries after the fall and called the local Magen David Adom, which within minutes sent an ambulance to take the infants to Poriya Hospital in Tiberias. The hospital said that after a series of tests, it was established that they are bruised but in "good condition."

MDA medic Saguy Nahum, who attended to them, said he could not recall a similar incident in which babies had fallen from such a height and escaped unscathed. Ilim

Police solve murder of Galilee man

Police say they have unraveled the murder of Hafez Ghanem, the owner of a marble plant from the Galilee village of Sajur, whose body was found on July 9 in his factory.

Two cousins, Imad Zakaria and Ata Zakaria - both from the West Bank town of Kabatyia - were arrested. The two confessed to the killing and reenacted it, according to police.

From a closed-circuit videotape found in the victim's drawer, relatives identified one of the two as a former worker in the factory.

According to police, the former worker said he had arrived with his cousin at the factory and the two pummeled Ghanem to death with a metal rod. The reason he gave was that Ghanem owed him NIS 2,000 and refused to pay. Ilim

Rabbis to help Russian olim

By ARYEH DEAN COHEN

Potential immigrants in the former Soviet Union will soon be able to get information and help with specific problems regarding personal status issues. The rabbinical courts will now be represented there, first in Moscow, Kiev, and Tbilisi.

According to an Absorption Ministry spokesman, the new program, established jointly by the ministry, the Liaison Bureau, and the directors of the rabbinical courts is aimed mainly at solving problems faced by immigrant women regarding divorces and alimony payments.

The move follows an appeal to the Interministerial Committee on Diaspora Affairs by Absorption Minister Yuli Edelstein for help for these immigrants.

The committee raised the matter with the rabbinical courts, and a joint team, including representatives of the Foreign and Absorption ministries, the Jewish Agency, the Liaison Bureau, and the rabbinical courts, came up with the idea. The representatives will look into

the personal status of potential immigrants and help them arrange the proper documents and the proper affidavits from witnesses prior their immigration.

They will also make a major effort to find the husbands of women whose husbands are either here or in the former Soviet Union, and cannot remarry because they have not yet been given a divorce.

The representatives have been trained by the Liaison Bureau and are currently being trained by the rabbinical courts before leaving for their posts next week, the spokesman said.

A special unit for dealing with personal-status issues was established by Edelstein when he became absorption minister, and helped in establishing 77 ulpanim throughout the country aimed at teaching immigrants about Judaism and preparing them for conversion. Twenty special sites have also been established to provide proper burial for those whose Jewishness is deemed questionable, or who have no recognized religion, to prevent delays in burial, the spokesman said.

Former policemen fund trip to Cyprus for kids with cancer

By DAVID RUDGE

Two retired police officers who now run a travel agency have joined forces with a voluntary group to help send 30 children suffering from cancer on the trip of a lifetime.

The youngsters are due to fly today to Cyprus for a four-day, all-inclusive holiday at a five-star hotel on the island.

The idea was raised by the non-profit "Lilabem Yahad" organization, which is composed of parents of children suffering from cancer who have been treated at Haifa's Rambam Hospital.

Members of the association approached former superintendent Shlomo Minkovski and ch. supt. David Tural, who recently retired from the police force, and now run the Fun Tours travel agency in

Haifa's bay-side district. "We were only too happy to help and with the aid of donations that were received from people throughout the North who heard about the campaign. We arranged the trip with the assistance of Israel's Minkovski said.

"The parents are only paying a symbolic fee towards the trip and the rest has come from private donations and contributions from companies and private businesses."

"The children will be accompanied by a doctor and nurse from Rambam, as well as a number of other escorts who will stay with them throughout the trip."

"We are also hoping that we will be able to arrange a meeting for them with Cypriot children also suffering from cancer," Minkovski added.

Local Conservative leader hails new 'Rabbi's Manual'

By SHI DAVID

The Conservative movement's new Rabbi's Manual, released Tuesday in New York, is a demonstration of the movement's progressiveness and caring, according to Rabbi Ehud Bandel, president of the Masorti Movement in Israel.

Bandel said it "shows the halachic heart of the Conservative movement and it makes me proud."

Our way is to not put our heads in the sand, but to adjust with the times and give options. It opens our hearts, so Halacha will be relevant and connected to the reality we live in."

The 688-page, two-volume manual includes a detailed process of conversion, gender-neutral language, and the first time a post-abortion grieving ritual.

Bandel said the conversion process, which requires the signing of a detailed paper in a rabbinical court pledging to give children a quality Jewish education, observe holidays and Shabbat, maintain kashrut, join and attend a synagogue, and pray regularly, "will bring people closer together in joy and welcome them with open arms."

He was also pleased with what he knew of the non-judgmental, post-abortion "grieving ritual."

"It's a disaster for someone to reach this point, but I believe this prayer is to lift the spirits of the mother after the tragedy," he said. "And that is the job of religion and rabbis, to give people hope in that situation, hope for a brighter future."

Hospital workers strike after doctor is attacked

By JUDY SIEGEL

The staff of Kupat Holim Clalit's Brill mental health center in Tel Aviv went on a 24-hour protest strike yesterday morning, after the director of the emergency room was attacked by a patient.

Dr. Yehuda Podlishevsky was in the emergency room along with a family medicine resident and a paramedical worker. When the patient entered the room, even before being examined, he wounded himself and cut Podlishevsky's hand with a utility knife. Fortunately, the center's guard was nearby and he helped overcome the attacker.

Podlishevsky and his assailant were taken to Sheba Hospital at Tel Hashomer for treatment. After receiving stitches in his hand, he was discharged and sent home.

Dr. Haim Solan, head of the Kupat Holim Clalit doctors' union, said his colleagues are demanding the presence of a policeman in all places where there could be friction between patients and medical staffs.

"We have decided that any institution where there is a violent incident will go on strike. We doctors will not put up with violence, and we will demand from the authorities that we be protected," Solan said.

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Wealthy benefactors stoke US campaigns for medical marijuana

By DAVID S. BRODER

PHOENIX — A war against the war on drugs, fueled by millionaires, not pot-smoking hippies, is taking place in six states and the District of Columbia this month. Voters in Alaska, Colorado, Nevada, Oregon, Washington and

"The goal is to change national policy, but we know we will have to win more battles in 1999 and 2000 before that happens."

California voters approved a medical marijuana initiative in 1996, but state and federal authorities have made a persistent effort to prevent people from selling marijuana to individuals who

law enforcement community, Congress and the Clinton administration fear they might be right.

One reason for the optimism among proponents is the money that has come in from three men: New York financier George Soros, Cleveland insurance executive Peter B. Lewis and Phoenix entrepreneur John Sperling, who are staunch critics of the anti-drug policies of successive Republican and Democratic administrations.

The three are financing most of the \$2 million campaign being run by the Los Angeles-based Americans for Medical Rights, which is coordinating the ballot drives everywhere but Arizona. Sperling is the principal backer of the Arizona referendum, which has raised \$1.4 million so far.

Dave Fratello, spokesman for the national organization, said,

A poll this month showed the proposal with a 64 percent to 30 percent lead, but sponsors said they expect it to narrow.

On the other side, the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy is distributing talking points to community anti-drug coalitions and urging newspapers in initiative states to editorialize against these propositions.

Its position papers contend other drugs can meet the medical needs of cancer and AIDS patients and urge that marijuana not be legalized at least until the Food and Drug Administration and the Institute of Medicine complete ongoing studies on its safety and effectiveness.

Local law enforcement agencies have not mobilized major money or strong grass-roots opposition to the initiatives.

Sen. Jon Kyl, R-Ariz., an opponent of the Arizona decriminaliza-



Voters in Alaska, Colorado, Nevada, Oregon, Washington and the District will find initiatives on their November 3 ballots allowing physicians, under defined conditions, to obtain and dispense marijuana as a palliative to their patients.

tion effort, said, "When it's everybody's responsibility, it's nobody's responsibility."

The Arizona battle might be the most significant because of the breadth of the referendum.

In 1996, Sperling, president of the Apollo Group Inc., which owns, among other enterprises, the for-profit University of Phoenix, launched the "Drug Medicalization, Prevention and Control" initiative, with financial

backing from Soros and Lewis.

In addition to permitting marijuana prescriptions, it provided that instead of jail, the first two possession convictions would result in probation and participation in a drug treatment or educa-

tion program.

He enlisted bipartisan support from Marvin S. Cohen, a Carter administration chairman of the Civil Aeronautics Board, and John Norton, a deputy secretary in the Reagan administration Agriculture Department.

His big catch was former Arizona senator Dennis DeConcini, a Democrat, who said in a television commercial, "As a former prosecutor and US senator I've spent my life fighting against drugs, and I can tell you that the Drug Medicalization Act will strengthen our drug policy."

The TV spots in the 1996 initiative campaign stressed the provision requiring those convicted of violent crimes while under the influence of drugs to serve their full sentences, without parole. The ads also argued that clearing prisons of people convicted of simple possession would save money and make space for hardened criminals.

The measure passed with little opposition. It was only afterward, said state Rep. Mike Gardner (R), that legislators discovered it had been written to include not just marijuana but 116 other "Schedule I" drugs including LSD, heroin and PCP.

"We want to medicalize all of them — and not be namby-pamby," Sperling said in an interview last week.

"Even though," campaign coordinator Sam Vagenas interjected, "we believe marijuana is the only one that meets the [medical] standards today."

GARDNER, chairman of the state House Judiciary Committee, immediately met with his state

Senate counterpart, and they drafted and passed two bills. One ordered jail time for anyone convicted of possession who refused treatment and the other suspended medical use of any of the 117 drugs, including marijuana, until it is approved by Congress or the FDA.

No sooner were the bills signed than Sperling and his team, now calling themselves "The People Have Spoken" coalition, rounded up signatures to force Gardner's bills to referendum.

The conflict quickly escalated. Sperling's side filed a second initiative for the November 3 ballot that would bar the legislature from making anything other than technical changes in voter-approved measures and require a three-fourths majority even for those.

The legislature replied with a countermeasure that would sunset initiatives after five years and permit substantive amendments on a two-thirds vote.

Sperling and his allies are running their campaign on a "people vs. politicians" theme. Their first radio ad noted their 1996 initiative "received approval of 65 percent of Arizonans. ... But that didn't stop the politicians from gutting it. They had the nerve to say that voters were ignorant."

Gardner said in an interview: "The initiative was part of our constitution when we became a state, because it was supposed to offer the people a way of overriding special-interest groups."

"But it's turned 180 degrees and now the special-interest groups use the initiative process for their own purposes."

(The Washington Post)

A historical Congress

Despite taunts from Democrats that congressional Republicans produced a do-nothing record this year, the session about to end has been one for the history books in at least three ways.

It is the first Congress in a generation to write a balanced budget. It is only the third in history to open an impeachment inquiry. And along the way, it has inspired an extraordinary rise — and an abrupt fall — in public approval of the institution of Congress.

After lawmakers reached their landmark balanced-budget agreement with President Clinton in the summer of 1997, polls found public approval of Congress rose to its highest levels in decades. But after the House voted Oct. 8 to open an impeachment inquiry stemming from Clinton's relationship with former White House intern Monica S. Lewinsky, approval of Congress dropped 11 percentage points in a matter of weeks, according to Gallup polling.

Part of the problem is that lawmakers did relatively little between those two signal votes. As

a result, the 105th Congress is likely to be remembered as much for what it did not accomplish as for what it did.

Myriad policy initiatives that once seemed to have powerful political momentum — tax cuts, regulation of health maintenance organizations, tobacco control efforts, reform of bankruptcy laws — sputtered and stalled before the legislative finish line.

While Democrats point to this list in making their "do-nothing Congress" claim, the roots of the policy vacuum are more complex. The public itself, content with the booming economy, seemed to demand little from legislators. And with the Republican Party divided over key issues and Clinton's leadership shadowed by scandal, neither side found an agenda with enough public support to power past the obstacles of a government divided between a GOP Congress and a Democratic president.

"With the end of the Cold War and the balanced-budget agreement, we have a new political balance for the two parties," said

William F. Connelly Jr., a political scientist at Washington & Lee University. "They are both casting about to determine what new direction to move in."

Against this backdrop, both parties view the Nov. 3 elections as a referendum on the policy initiatives Congress failed to pass. Republicans are urging people to vote GOP to win more tax cuts and a stronger defense next year.

"We will be back in January with more Republicans," said House Speaker Newt Gingrich, R-Ga. "Then we can have a tax cut." Senate Majority Leader Trent Lott, R-Miss., pointed out that with only one more Republican, the Senate would have enough votes to approve a new missile defense system (partial funding is included in this year's spending bill).

Democrats, meanwhile, promise to enact HMO reform, a minimum-wage increase and more aid for school construction — all casualties of this Congress — if they are given more power on Capitol Hill.

"These are really the issues that people care about and that we're

running on against this do-nothing Congress," said House Minority Leader Richard A. Gephardt, D-Mo. "We need to change the Congress to change the agenda."

Recent polls have found that much of the public seems to agree with Gephardt that this Congress produced little of note. But Republicans say that is not necessarily a bad thing, especially among voters who are happy with

ANALYSIS

By JANEY HOOK

the state of the economy.

More troublesome for the GOP has been the sudden drop in public approval of Congress since the House voted on opening the impeachment inquiry. Earlier in 1998, approval of the way Congress was handling its job jumped to more than 50 percent for the first time in decades, according to the Gallup Poll — a jump most analysts attributed to the healthy economy and satisfac-

tion with the balanced budget deal.

Approval of Congress reached 55 percent in mid-September, then dropped to 44 percent in early October, Gallup found. Other polls registered a similar trend. Some of that decline may reflect growing uncertainty about the economy, but most analysts saw it more as a backlash against the proceedings against Clinton.

Those polls were conducted before the year-end budget agreement, which may bring some rebound in Congress' standing with the public — if the public notices and likes what it sees. The budget includes money to hire more teachers, boost the Pentagon's budget, help the nation's farmers and intensify drug-interdiction efforts.

That adds a few notches to Congress' record for the year, which also included an overhaul of the Internal Revenue Service to curb abuses of taxpayer rights, a bill to revamp public housing programs to give more power to local officials, a measure to expand NATO to include three more East European countries and a trans-

portation bill that included billions for highway, transit and other infrastructure projects.

Those are significant matters, but have been eclipsed by the sheer drama and historic magnitude of the House impeachment debate. The legislative record also pales in comparison to the budget-balancing agreement and tax cut enacted last year — and in comparison to the scope of the things Congress failed to do this year.

Proposals to establish new patient protections for participants in HMOs would have reached deeply into the lives of millions of Americans. A comprehensive effort to curb teen smoking would have reined in a powerful industry, raised the price of cigarettes and blizzed teenagers with stern anti-smoking messages.

But despite early interest by both parties, the tobacco and health bills both died in the face of determined industry opposition. Democrats and other advocates of those measures may have overestimated the public's interest in the legislation they were promoting — and underestimated the clout of

the opposition.

Republicans, for their part, failed to marshal the political momentum they needed to push a tax cut past Clinton. That is largely because Clinton, by insisting the budget surplus not be spent or used to cut taxes before Social Security is shored up for the baby boom's retirement, managed to recast the debate as a choice between reducing taxes or saving Social Security.

Also left on Congress' cutting-room floor were proposed tax breaks for parents who save for their children's education, campaign finance reform and revisions to the nation's decades-old banking laws.

In many cases, legislative initiative fell victim to a broad political dynamic in which both Republicans and Democrats saw their interests served more by confrontation than by cooperation.

"The political stars have aligned in a way that prevents major action on a lot of issues," said John J. Pitney, a political scientist at Claremont-McKenna College in California. (LA Times)

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Troops told to hold fire about Clinton

WASHINGTON (AP) — US military leaders are reminding troops they must avoid "insulting, rude or disdainful" comments about President Bill Clinton, and that even repeating jokes about the commander-in-chief and Monica Lewinsky could subject them to prosecution under military law.

The warnings, both official and unofficial, came in response to a spate of newspaper columns and letters to the editor in recent weeks written by military officers with harsh criticisms of Clinton's conduct.

Responding to a brief report that some Marines were circulating an e-mail petition for Clinton's impeachment, the service's No. 2 general dispatched an electronic directive of his own: "You must emphatically discourage any such actions," Gen. Terrence Dake wrote all Marine generals earlier this month. "It is unethical for individuals who wear the uniform of a Marine to engage in public dialogue on political and legal matters such as impeachment."

The general noted that Article 88 of the military's Uniform Code of Military Justice prohibits such conduct.

"We are not politicians. We are not a corps of lawyers. We are warriors, nothing more, nothing less," said the memo.

This week, a Marine Corps major denounced Clinton in a column published by the independent newspaper *Navy Times*, while an Army colonel criticized the president in a letter to the editor in a similar publication.

"One should call an adulterous liar exactly what he is — a criminal," wrote Maj. Shane Sellers, a 20-year Marine veteran.

Army Col. John R. Baer lambasted Clinton in a letter published October 12 in the *Army Times*, also an independent paper, and urged the commander-in-chief to stop issuing signed letters of appreciation to officers when they retire.

In the Air Force, an article explaining the rules has gotten wide e-mail circulation, officials said. It was initially printed in a base newspaper at F.E. Warren Air Force Base in Wyoming.

"With the release of Independent Prosecutor Kenneth Starr's report... Americans are involved in a great debate over what it means for the country. Because of President Clinton's role as commander in chief of the military, however, Air Force members aren't allowed to discuss the president in the same manner as civilians," said the article, written by Capt. Brian Bengs of the base's staff judge advocate's office. Bengs wrote that Article 88 "expressly prohibits any commissioned officer from using 'contemptuous words' against the president."

Also, "repeating jokes about the president could make a military member subject to prosecution, depending upon the joke," the article stated.

Senate passes budget bill; Clinton prepares to sign

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Senate passed a massive \$520 billion budget package yesterday, the final legislative day of the 105th Congress, as lawmakers turned to the voters to assess a year marked by a breakthrough budget surplus and unrelenting partisan rancor.

White House officials said President Bill Clinton intended to sign the bill later in the day.

The 65-29 vote for the bill that provides money for hundreds of federal agencies came amid resentment among many members about voting for a measure of such sheer immensity that few had had a chance to read it.

"It is too big, and the process isn't the preferred way" to construct such a bill, Senate Majority Leader Trent Lott, R-Miss., told a reporter just before the vote. "But it is what is needed to keep important govern-

ment programs working."

White House press secretary Joe Lockhart said, "Unfortunately some members have put some things in there that... if we still had the tool of the line-item veto we might exercise, but on balance we think the right thing to do is to sign the legislation based on the gains for the American people."

Also on the congressional agenda for the final moments of the session were several nominations and non-controversial bills.

Sen. Robert Byrd, D-W.V., set the tone in the debate on Tuesday when he called the 4,000-page bill a "colossal monstrosity." After initially saying he would reluctantly vote for the bill, he ended up changing his vote to no.

Money to hire teachers, build a missile defense, find medical cures and put more cops on the

streets was part of the giant measure that now goes to Clinton for his signature. It ends a congressional session that celebrated the first budget surplus in 30 years and initiated for only the third time impeachment proceedings against a sitting president.

The House on Tuesday approved the bill 333-95. It funds almost one-third of the federal budget and combines eight of the 13 spending bills Congress must pass each year.

The bill covers health, education, foreign aid, justice and transportation programs. It meets a held-up administration request for \$17.9 billion for the International Monetary Fund and adds \$2.1b. for emergency relief for natural disaster and farm relief to fix the year 2000 computer problem.

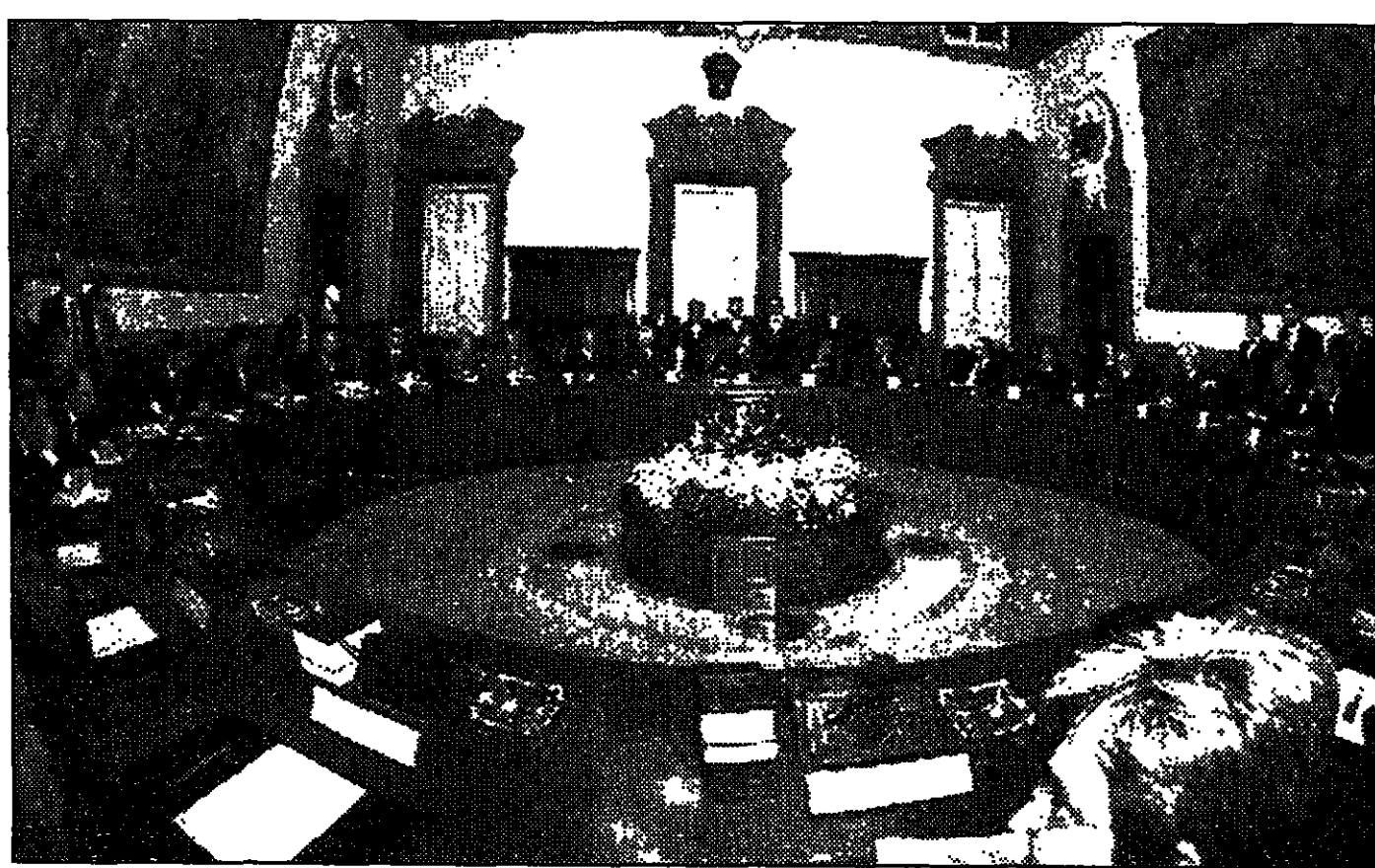
Some Republican conservatives protested the spending levels, but

House Speaker Newt Gingrich, R-GA, in a closing speech aimed mostly at the "perfectionist caucus" in his own party, reminded them that "if we don't work together [with Democrats] on big issues, nothing gets done."

Several senators voting against the bill said they were offended by how the deal was reached.

Sen. Daniel Patrick Moynihan, D-NY, said Congress was "beginning to resemble a kind of bastard parliamentary system" where the "real decisions are made in a closed room by three or four people."

Sen. Arlen Specter, R-PA, who heads the Appropriations subcommittee in charge of labor, health and education programs, spoke of being excluded from final negotiations and said it was an "oligarchy" when such big decisions were made by so few.



First council of ministers of Massimo d'Alema's new government in Rome.

Italy's new government, with Marxists, takes office

ROME (Reuters) — Ex-communist Massimo D'Alema was sworn in yesterday as prime minister of Italy's 56th government since 1945, heading a new center-left administration which included the first Marxist ministers in 51 years.

The ceremony ended a three-week crisis which might have plunged Italy into an early election just as it prepares to join the European single currency — the biggest symbol of a new stability

and political maturity.

D'Alema, 49, was the first to swear allegiance to Italy's post-war constitution in the gilded Sala delle Feste at the Quirinale palace before President Oscar Luigi Scalfaro, who as supreme political arbiter shepherded the new government into existence.

In an historic turnaround in Italian postwar politics, where Christian Democrats faced off against pro-Soviet communists

for nearly 50 years, Oliviero Diliberto and Katia Bellillo became the first Marxists to serve in cabinet since a government of national unity folded in 1947.

"We have waited 50 years for this moment," Diliberto told reporters. The ministerial line-up includes three ex-prime ministers, six women and a younger look to a cabinet that includes activists from the student movements of the 1960s.

The new European Affairs Ministry is headed by the youngest minister, Enrico Letta of the centrist Popular Party, who is just 32.

The new government is the more extraordinary for including ex-communists and Marxists alongside members of the UDR (Union of Democrats for the Republic), who once swore allegiance to the now-defunct Christian Democrats.

Glenn dropped from part of key age-related experiment

CAPE CANAVERAL, Florida (AP) — NASA insists safety — not the presence of the president — will determine whether *Discovery* lifts off next week with John Glenn. Meanwhile, the 77-year-old astronaut has been dropped from part of a key age-related experiment involving sleep disorders.

NASA has touted such experiments as the top reason for including Glenn on the space shuttle crew. He volunteered — nagged, even — to be the oldest person and first geriatric research subject in space.

Back in August or September, though, Glenn was quietly removed from a planned experiment to test the hypnotic effects of a natural hormone, melatonin, on people in orbit.

The doctor in charge of the sleep study was forced to drop Glenn from the melatonin sampling test because of Food and Drug Administration regulations, NASA scientist John Charles said yesterday.

"He was forced to do so by the regulations, the agreement he has with the FDA involving melatonin," even though the dosage was much less than what's available in a health-food store, Charles said.

The researcher, Dr. Charles Czeisler of Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston, was quoted in yesterday's *The New York Times* as saying that Glenn did not meet one of the medical criteria established for participation.

Neither Czeisler nor Charles — or other NASA officials — would say why Glenn was dropped from the melatonin portion of the experiment, citing personal medical con-

Charles stressed that Glenn still will participate in the sleep study as well as nine other medical experiments. Glenn and another astronaut will be wired up with 21 electrodes and cords for several nights of the flight as originally planned so their sleep can be monitored.

On Tuesday, the White House announced that President Bill Clinton will attend the October 29 launch of Glenn, a Democratic senator who went into politics after becoming the first American to orbit the Earth back in 1962.

By ANGUS SHAW

HARARE (AP) — Three southern African allies of embattled Congolese President Laurent Kabila agreed yesterday to mount an offensive against rebel strongholds in the east of the vast, mineral-rich country.

"The east is where the sun rises and that's where we are going militarily," Zimbabwe's President Robert Mugabe said after a summit with his counterparts in Angola and Namibia.

The announcement could lead to a major escalation of the conflict that began Aug. 2 with rebel advances aimed at toppling Kabila.

Rwanda has sent troops in support of the rebels, and Uganda denies charges it is also backing them.

Mugabe said fighting in the

eastern jungles could be prolonged, costly and difficult. But Kabila's allies planned to stop the Congo conflict from threatening the region, he said.

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WORLD

in brief

American arms inspector sent home from Iraq

BAGHDAD (Reuters) — The UN Special Commission (UNSCOM) charged with disarming Iraq has withdrawn an American member of its inspection team for violating its rules, a UN official said yesterday.

"UNSCOM decided to send him back home on the next available flight," said Nils Carlstrom, director of the Baghdad Monitoring and Verification Center. "He was breaking UNSCOM because he was using a private camera." Iraq Tuesday had accused the inspector of spying during monitoring of a weapons site.

Sudat Mohammed of the Iraqi National Monitoring Directorate, the body responsible for liaison with UNSCOM, named the man as Carl Pflugar and said he had taken photos of an Iraqi missile warhead with his own camera, which did not carry a UN tag.

Microsoft says 'offer' was response to Netscape

WASHINGTON (AP) — Microsoft lawyers yesterday sought to portray the software giant's alleged offer to invest in rival Netscape as merely its executives' response to an earlier proposal from Netscape.

Netscape claims that during a June 21, 1995, meeting between executives from both companies, Microsoft tried to bully it into a deal to carve up the market for Internet browsers software — and threatened Netscape if it failed to accept. But during cross-examination at Microsoft's antitrust trial, company attorney John Warden asked Netscape chief executive officer James Barksdale about an e-mail the company's co-founder had sent to Microsoft executives. In that message dated Dec. 29, 1994, at 3:01 a.m., co-founder Jim Clark suggested: "We'd like to work with you. Working together could be in your self-interest as well as ours. Depending on the interest level, you might take an equity position in Netscape."

Countdown halted for Ariane 5 launch

PARIS (AP) — The countdown ahead of the third and final test launch of Europe's Ariane 5 rocket was stopped yesterday just as the launch window opened. Officials said the countdown for the unmanned rocket, set to blast off from a base in South America, could be restarted at any time during the 90-minute launch window.

Technicians at the headquarters of Arianespace, in Evry south of Paris, gave no reason for halting the countdown. The Ariane 5 is the most powerful in the series of unmanned European rockets.

The launch at the space center in French Guiana, on the northern shoulder of South America, is to be the final test launch before the rocket goes into commercial use. The first Ariane 5 launch crashed in June 1996 and the second launch a year ago was less than perfect.

Dutch poet Vasalis dies at 89

AMSTERDAM (AP) — Dutch poet Vasalis, whose lucid style and poignant commentary on everyday life made her one of the Netherlands' most popular poets, has died. She was 89.

Vasalis, whose real name was Margaretha Droogelever Fortuyn-Leenmans, died Friday in her hometown of Roden in northern Netherlands, publisher Van Oorschot spokeswoman Gamma Neffkens said yesterday. The cause of death was not disclosed.

Her works include about 100 poems about the endeavors of daily life and how they lead to pain, grief and love. Among Vasalis' books are *Parks and Deserts*, published in 1940, and *The Bird Phoenix* in 1947. In 1982, she won the P.C. Hooft Prize, the Netherlands' top literary award.

Spanish judges pool resources on Pinochet

MADRID (Reuters) — Spain's "Superjudge" Baltasar Garzon pooled resources with a fellow judge yesterday to broaden accusations of genocide and terrorism against Chile's former dictator Augusto Pinochet, court sources said.

Garzon became the sole Spanish judge delving into the accusations against Pinochet when he took on the cases being investigated by High Court Judge Manuel Garcia Castellon.

Garcia Castellon, who has been investigating the "dirty war" in Chile during Pinochet's 1973-90 rule, said Tuesday he was turning his cases over to Garzon.

Garcia Castellon, who made the first request last week to Britain to hold Pinochet for questioning, said it did not make sense for the two judges to pursue the same charges.

Garzon has conducted a two-year investigation of atrocities committed in Latin American

"dirty wars" in the 1970s and 1980s.

Garzon shocked the international community with his successful request Friday to London for the arrest of the 82-year-old former general. Pinochet, who was in London for surgery, was detained by British authorities Friday night.

Garzon wants Pinochet to be extradited to Spain to face charges of genocide, torture and terrorism. He has cited cases involving 94 people from Spain, Argentina, Chile, the United States and Britain.

The private lawyers working on the cases said they would give their written reasons for Pinochet's extradition to Garzon today. The judge hopes to present Britain with a formal request early next month.

Once the extradition request is passed through the judicial system in Spain it must be approved by the cabinet, then sent through diplomatic channels to Britain.

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مكتبة الجليل

Where China's boomtown turns to sleaze

An outspoken author-critic of China's economic reforms has been victimized by the very corruption she denounces and says she won't take it lying down.

By JOHN POMFRET

XIAN, China — He Qinglian is mad and she's not going to take it anymore. The author of perhaps the hottest nonfiction book in China these days has come to this ancient capital on an ironic quest: to denounce a book written under her own name.

Her book, *China's Pitfall*, constitutes the most cogent critique of China's economic reforms to have come out of the country.

In it she blasts everyone — but mostly the Communist Party — for creating a situation where wealth is concentrated in the hands of sleazy bureaucrats, national resources are plundered for the benefit of the few, and the common folk are left to pick through the leavings with little hope of a fundamentally better life.

He (pronounced Huh) paints a grotesque Chinese landscape packed with rip-off schemes run by party officials, smuggling rings masterminded by cops and officers from the People's Liberation Army, and warehouses managed by government toadies.

The publication of the book in Hong Kong late last year and a

toned-down version titled *The Pitfalls of Modernization* in January marked a major event in Chinese publishing. For the first time since reforms began in 1978, a Chinese scholar has written a systematic critique from the perspective of one who has lived through the process and seen what has happened to people. So why is He in Xian, more than 1,000 miles from home?

"I'm being ripped-off, too," says the 42-year-old economist as she sits in a ramshackle hotel room, strewn with teacups and cigarettes. "It's pretty ridiculous. Here I spent years trying to get this book about the reforms published. I did it so I could raise consciousness about the issues. And what happens? Somebody is eating my flesh, drinking my blood."

And the perpetrators weren't sneaky about it. They came to Xian, for the ninth All-China Book Fair, to openly advertise a new title — *Behind the Pitfalls of Modernization*. Its author, they claimed, was the famous He Qinglian. They stuck up a red, white and black poster featuring her name in marquee-size letters,

scattered thousands of promotional bookmarks and set up a booth to hawk thousands of copies.

The problem, He says, is that she didn't write it.

"This is worse than pirating," she says, pointing out that an estimated 330,000 copies of her actual book have been sold illegally without her getting a cent (in addition to 100,000 copies sold legally by her publisher).

He's solution is straight out of America. "I'm going to sue," she says. And go to the press.

Reporters from the freer southern Chinese newspapers and TV stations have traipsed in and out of her hotel room. One television station filmed an acrimonious exchange between He and journalist Zhu Jiaqun, who is the real author of the book with the misleading title.

In her book, He argues that the disparity between rich and poor here is vast and increasing daily. Calling China's reform "crippled" and "half-baked," she advocates "making justice the starting point" of the next round of changes. He at times resembles a roman-

tic, longing for the equality of the old days of socialism but reveling in the country's new freedoms.

Still, her book constitutes a powerful challenge to many American China-watchers and business executives whose line is that as long as China's economy is growing, things will work themselves out. "These people," He says, "spend a lot of time looking at figures. Things go up, so they think things are getting better. They need to spend more time looking at who is getting what, how things are changing, how power is used or abused."

In 1988, after finishing graduate work at Fudan University in Shanghai, He went to Shenzhen, a free-wheeling boomtown near Hong Kong. Shenzhen, with its trashy night life, profitable joint ventures and greed-is-good philosophy, combines all that has succeeded and failed in China's reforms.

He landed a job at a firm that was transforming itself from a collectively owned enterprise into a joint stock company — one of the changes in China lauded by Western economists. What happened, however, is the old man-

agers grabbed all the stock and took bank loans that were supposed to be for a furniture factory and invested them in fly-by-night real estate schemes. The firm is now tottering on the brink of bankruptcy, He said, because the managers moved all its capital into their private bank accounts.

After quitting the firm a few years ago to join the Shenzhen Legal Daily as an editor, He makes about \$375 a month. The writer is married and has one child.

In recent weeks, He's book, which has not been translated into English, has been touted in the United States — but from a perspective that she argues is flawed.

THE dissident journalist Liu Binyan, who co-authored a *New York Review of Books* essay and has not been to China since the 1980s, used He's book to support the argument that the crushing of the Tiananmen Square protests in 1989 was the death knell of reform here. Which meant, Liu said, that economic reform was doomed to fail.

Columnist Michael Kelly, writing in *The Washington Post's* opin-

ion pages, said *China's Pitfall* showed US policy toward China is "dead wrong." Kelly argues He's book proves the administration's premise — that China's reforms are slowly creating capitalism and democracy — is misguided.

"The butchers of Beijing," Kelly wrote, "were also the looters of Beijing."

While such statements could affect He's freedom to work, that's not the only reason she objects. "Anyone who thinks that China had a choice about reforming doesn't understand the situation here," she says.

"What I am saying is that now we have gotten to the point where we have to look at what has happened, to take stock and to see what kind of society we have created. This is not a book about US-China relations. This is not a book that aims to sweep away all that has been accomplished in 20 years; to negate it all, like many dissidents want to do. I know that I can't stop it from being used as a political tract — just like I can't stop it from being pirated — but that is not why I wrote it. And I think that is not why many people are reading it."

THE people reading it include China's top leaders. Indeed, the only organization that reportedly has banned members from buying it is the People's Liberation Army, possibly because the army has serious corruption and smuggling problems. But throughout the Communist Party and the government, the book has become very popular. In August, He, who has never been a member of the party, was invited to Beijing to speak to its Central Commission for Discipline Inspection on corruption. "They said, 'We want to treat you like one of our own, say anything you want. Speak the truth,'" she recalls. "So I did."

He says her fame has made life "pretty miserable these days." "I've had to change my phone number at home three times and still people find it. They pay off the operator," she says. "I've changed my beeper number twice. It's ridiculous. I've moved out of my house into my office. I feel like I'm living in a fishbowl." Still, she is writing.

"Oh, the next book is going to be even worse," she predicts with a mischievous smile.

(The Washington Post)

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Peeling off the mask of Moses, the man

By Mary Rourke

Rabbi Levi Meier is taking a bold step by peeling the mask off Moses. The pivotal figure who led his people out of slavery in Egypt is now under investigation. Thousands of years after his death, two new books and a movie about his life unveil a new portrait — the sugarcoating he has worn for so long gets reduced to a semisweet glaze. Meier's book, *Moses: The Prince, the Prophet (Jewish Lights)*, profiles an imperfect hero, which makes him all the more credible as a guide through modern dilemmas.

For his remake, Jonathan Kirsch burrows into the Torah in *Moses: A Life (Ballantine)* and finds some discrepancies. Unlike the familiar, granite image of Moses, Kirsch sees a man torn by fits of violence, prone to arguing with God, marked by physical handicaps, reluctant to be a savior.

On the big screen, DreamWorks Pictures' animated film *The Prince of Egypt* comes closest to preserving the godlike facade of Moses, but it diverts from the original story by playing him up as an alienated man, born a Hebrew but raised an Egyptian, struggling with divided loyalties. The film premieres in December.

Old Gray Beard has been down this road before. Leaders of such mythic proportion seldom rest in peace. In the '50s, Hollywood captured Moses as a tower of physical and moral strength in *The Ten Commandments*, with Charlton Heston playing the paragon of courage and virtue.

In the '60s, Moses was the liberator who inspired modern Jews in *Exodus*, a bestselling novel-turned-epic-movie that equates the Jewish struggle to create

a homeland with the ancient escape from slavery. The movies were anything but the first round of remakes. Moshé, as his Hebrew mother would have called him, has been a work in progress since around 1200 BCE, the estimated era of his life.

Over time his image has been built on legends and lore more than sacred Scripture.

"The most important thing to know about Moses is that he's depicted in the Bible in stark contrast to the way he's portrayed in popular and religious culture," says Kirsch. "Those versions are sanitized, because a close look at the Bible text shows how the details of his life are perplexing and challenging."

According to the Bible, he was born a Levite, nearly put to death in a purge, rescued by an Egyptian princess and raised in the royal court. As a young man, he killed an Egyptian who was abusing a Hebrew slave.

Not long after that, he heard the voice of God on a mountainside but argued against God's plan that he lead the Israelites out of captivity, afraid he couldn't do it. A tenuous relationship grew more tense. It seems God was upset because Moses didn't circumcise his son — and nearly killed Moses for it. By that point in the story, it is clear, Moses was a man of inner conflicts, and God was given to emotional extremes.

"Moses is shown to be timid and cowardly. It's hard to explain why he'd run away from his responsibilities, but I don't sweep things like this away. I celebrate them. To me, it's provocative to go behind the scenes and ask what the Bible really says," says Kirsch, who also is the author of the bestselling *The Harlot by the Side of the Road: Forbidden Tales of the Bible* (Ballantine, 1997), which covered the steamier side of the Bible.

Kirsch holds with scholars who say the Bible is the work of many authors who edited and rewrote it over centuries.

"Pious people would not be comfortable with that," he says.

"They consider the Bible to be the delivered word of God." The many-authors theory holds that the first oral accounts of Moses' life were written down, then rewritten over some 600 years.

Moses may have been an actual man in history, although there are no known references outside the Bible. Over the centuries, he was given new scenes and dialogue by successive generations of writers — priests and scribes with so few facts to go on they felt free to invent things. Midrash or Bible commentary, sermons and written reflections slowly stretched a selection of the facts into a portrait of Moses to compare with a Greek god.

"If DreamWorks makes up new scenes for Moses," says Kirsch, "the rabbis have made up much more."

The fact is, DreamWorks does rewrite the story once again. An invented friendship between young Moses and Ramses II, the Egyptian prince, heightens the drama. Historians believe Ramses II was the pharaoh whose army drowned when the Red Sea parted for Moses and the Israelites. The sea then flooded the pursuing Egyptians.

Kirsch points out that an even more disturbing betrayal than the one between Ramses II and Moses exists in the Bible text but gets overlooked. Pharaoh first turned against Moses when he killed an Egyptian to save a Hebrew slave. Scripture says Moses committed the act when there were no witnesses. The slave he rescued told the pharaoh what happened.



Charlton Heston as Moses in "The Ten Commandments"

Although imperfectly, perhaps, Moses did manage to complete his mission and deliver his people to the Promised Land.

"His message to us is this," Kirsch says. "It's in your power to choose between good and evil." Kirsch's probing study seems to grow out of his professional training as a journalist and lawyer. He practices copyright and publishing law in Los Angeles.

Meier's book reflects his work, too. He is a chaplain at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center in Los Angeles and also counsels patients of his own. Meier doesn't enter the debate about who wrote the Bible or when.

"My work as a counselor and hospital chaplain is about how to live your life," he says. "To me, the most important thing about Moses is his relationship to God. He kept a dialogue going." The Ten Commandments condemn such acts as murder, theft and infidelity. Meier says they also teach us that God can change his mind.

"The first time God gave the commandments, he expected people to keep them perfectly," Meier says. "But he had to give them twice." (Moses smashed the first set when he saw the Israelites worshipping a golden calf they had made.) "By the second time, God recognized that humans make mistakes, and that's OK."

"The most important thing about Moses is he accomplished that change in God. He appealed to God's compassion and forgiveness, and God gave us another chance. Our job is to be a catalyst too. We can elicit compassion from ourselves and others, instead of holding too rigidly to what is written in stone."

The books, the movie, the wish to update an ancient hero's image say something about our times, Meier believes.

"We're looking for moral leaders, which our generation is lacking," Meier says.

Kirsch sees his subject as the malleable man. "Moses has been the liberator, the law-giver, the intercessor between God and man," he says. "I see him as the goad, who nags at us to do the right thing."

"If DreamWorks makes him over into a figure we can relate to in modern culture, well, he's been put to many uses in the past. The great thing about Moses is he's still the same enduring figure."

(Los Angeles Times)

The shrink who tried shamanic healing

ENTERING THE CIRCLE. Ancient Secrets of Siberia Discovered by a Russian Psychiatrist by Olga Kharitidi, M.D. Harper, San Francisco. 226 pp. Price not stated.

By Rachael Chazan

This is an unusual book. It describes the exploration of the mysterious healing art of the shamans of the Altai mountains, a remote region of Siberia, by a young Russian psychiatrist. Russian psychiatrists are nothing if not hard-headed; the reality of their work in Soviet Russia (as it was then) was arduous. Nonetheless Olga, the psychiatrist, is open to the inner experience she encountered on her journey, and willing to learn from it.

At this point I have to confess that I find it difficult to write about this book. It isn't difficult to read — it is extremely readable, fascinating, involving. The problem was from what perspective to look at the phenomena described. If they could not be scientifically explained, what were they? Can mind heal body, mind heal mind? We know of the intimate connection between body and mind, as manifested in psychosomatic illness. Mental stress can produce physical changes. We can therefore accept the healing of a physical illness by a spiritual process, as described in the book. Biological psychiatry today takes precisely the opposite direction: it attempts to explain all mental illness by underlying physical and chemical processes, and to find healing in psychotropic drugs. But this does not contradict the psycho-physical interrelationship. Who is the shaman, the



Siberia — land of the reindeer, of fields of oil and timber, and of shamans

(Camera Press)

healer of ancient traditions of native Americans, of Tibetans, Siberians and others?

Don Juan Matus, extensively written about by the anthropologist Carlos Castaneda, was (or is) a shaman. We recall that in the first volume Don Juan teaches Carlos to use medicinal plants, like the peyote mushroom, to produce altered and expanded states of consciousness. Later he trains him in producing such states without the aid of plants. Therein lies the importance of his work, whether or not we believe that every word of his is based on fact. This is important: mesocline (peyote extract) and LSD have been used in psychotherapy. If the shaman knows the art of altering consciousness, with or without medicinal plants, we can understand his art.

The healer is not unknown in Judaism. Rabbi Nachman of Bratslav was called to heal a man who had gone mad and believed he

was a chicken. He sat under a table, naked, and refused to eat. The rabbi took off his clothes and sat there with him, explaining that he, too, was a chicken. After a few days he put on a shirt. The crazy man questioned this. Rabbi Nachman replied: "If I wear a shirt, does this make me less of a chicken?" In this way, he gradually convinced the madman to dress, sit at the table, eat his meals.

The story shows ingenuity and a willingness to go down to the level of the sick person, in every sense of the word. Rabbi Nachman can surely be called a healer.

I had to read the book a second time before I could place it in the framework of scientific psychiatric thinking. Olga Kharitidi is a young psychiatrist working in a Russian hospital, and we are shown the harsh realities of her work. The cold bus rides, the long hours of work, the unoppressing hospital. The ward patients taking their breakfast seem

like prisoners. One day, a mother brings a son who had a breakdown in the army. She is relieved that he is out of the fighting. Olga reflects that the mother has no idea of the seriousness of schizophrenia.

Nicola arrives, clearly no ordinary patient. His uncle, a shaman, has died; he had never liked him. He hears his uncle's voice, urging him to be a shaman. He wants none of this, he wants Olga to cure him of it. Olga decides to hypnotize him. Nicola experiences the hypnosis as successful. He has resolved that he will indeed be a shaman. Olga is aghast: she has strengthened his hallucinations instead of curing him. Nicola has a message from his uncle. "Tell her she will meet the spirit of death." Next day a young woman is brought in who has been deliberately starving herself; attempts are made to resuscitate her. That night Olga has a mysterious and frightening dream that seems to suggest the woman's death.

She rushes to hospital and finds she has indeed died; no cause of death is found.

Nicola offers to take Olga to see a shaman. She agrees to go along, together with her doctor friend Anna, who has a chronic physical illness. We follow them on their long journey to a remote village in the Altai mountains of Siberia, where they meet Umai, the woman who is a shaman. We follow the dramatic process of Anna being healed of her debilitating illness. Olga, too, goes through a mystical experience. Later, a scientist takes her to a laboratory where she undergoes an experiment that enables her to explore her inner thoughts and feelings. She learns the importance of listening to her inner voice.

As might be expected, it is impossible to convey the quality of this book with such matter-of-fact descriptions.

The experiences are breathtaking. How, then, are we to understand them? How do they fit into the reality of everyday working life? The test, indeed, is their relevance to Olga's work. She returns to her hospital and is assigned a patient diagnosed as severely and hopelessly schizophrenic. This patient, Luba, appears quite inaccessible, quite unable to listen to or understand what she is told. Olga decides to put aside the conventional psychiatric criteria and follow her inner voice. She gives this woman her message. She tells Luba that her disease once fulfilled a useful function for her — though she, Olga, does not know what her problem had been. But it no longer does, it has become a monster that is destroying her. She warns her that she will become like Larisa

Chernenko. (Here Olga gives the name of a disturbed and violent patient who attacked her visiting daughter.) Five days later Olga visits the same ward. She finds Luba totally changed, recovered. Luba tells her that she heard Olga's words, but was at first quite indifferent. Yet something impelled her to look for Larisa C.; she found there was no such patient in the ward. One day a patient called Tamara Chernenko was visited by her daughter Larisa. Tamara cursed and swore at her daughter, and eventually hit her in the face.

"Something happened to me ... I felt as if somebody had literally grabbed hold of my hair and pulled me out of my disease. I was overwhelmed by thoughts about my husband and sons and how they must have felt about my sickness. It was as if a dam had suddenly burst, and the huge energy it released entered my body and filled it up again. I felt fully

healed in just a few moments." Olga's mistake had been an added spur for Luba. The point was, however, that she had succeeded in communicating with a healthy kernel of the sick woman's self. What seemed a miraculous cure to the staff was the result of what Olga called "listening to her inner voice." We can also explain it as refusal to content herself with outward appearances or diagnostic labels. She decided, hoping against hope, to appeal to the rational human being within the psychotic shell. We note that she did use her knowledge of psychopathology: the function of the illness as defense. But she went beyond the conventionally acceptable.

Dr. Kharitidi avoids technical jargon, but her writing satisfies scientific standards. The book reads like a novel, and is fascinating and enjoyable both for the health professional and the general reader.

STEIMATZKY'S BESTSELLING PAPERBACKS

1. The God of Small Things by Arundhati Roy, Flamingo.
2. The Ghost by Danielle Steel, Corgi.
3. A Certain Justice by P.D. James, Penguin, Ballantine.
4. Mark of Cain by Ram Oren, Keshet.
5. The Predators by Harold Robbins, Pocket.
6. Power Plays: ruthless.com by Tom Clancy and Martin Greenberg, Penguin, Berkley.
7. Tarkin by Robert Cook, Pan, Berkley.
8. Now and Then by Joseph Heller, Pocket, Vintage.
9. The Divine Secrets of the Ya-Ya Sisterhood by Rebecca Wells, Harper Perennial.
10. Key Witness by J.F. Freedman, Signet.

BOOK BYTES

Phaidon is a brand name among art book publishers. Founded in Vienna in 1923 by Bela Horowitz and Ludwig Goldscheider, the company and its Jewish owners were forced to flee Austria by the invading Nazis. Phaidon settled in London, and flourished. Eventually the firm was sold (in 1967) and, after a steady decline under a string of owners, Phaidon went into receivership (in 1990).

Enter Richard Schlagman. For four years, Schlagman had been searching for a company to buy and make his own. Schlagman began making his money in electrical goods while still at college. He almost bought out Rumbelows, the British appliance store chain, before he plumped for Phaidon, for which he paid an undisclosed sum. "It was the smallest thing I looked at, but I recognized that it was a great brand and that it would be something I'd enjoy," he says. Schlagman bought Phaidon as a failing business which he intended to turn around. "When I came, Phaidon was like an academic institution — people drifted in at all times of the day. We needed to change that. We needed to be operationally slicker and smoother."

Although he had no experience in publishing, Schlagman took a hands-on approach. Today he continues to chair the editorial meetings and oversee each new idea. The company is shedding its staid approach and appealing to a wider, younger audience with books on photography, fashion, and design. As a result Phaidon is growing at a rate of 10 percent a year. Schlagman was warned that publishing is a "very unusual world," a view that at first he refused to accept, but now believes.

PROF. BINYAMIN Abrahamov, if pressed, says modestly that he is "one of the few Jews in the world to devote himself to Islamic philosophy and theology." Abrahamov, who is head of the Arabic department of Bar-Ilan University, has just published his third book on Muslim thought, entitled *Islamic Theology: Traditionalism and Rationalism* (Edinburgh University Press). His study covers the divisive clash of philosophies among Islamic theologians, which lasted from the 9th century to the 16th.

EAJONN O'Neill's *Matadors: A Journey into the Heart of Modern Bullfighting* (Mainstream) takes a very jaundiced view of Spain's national sport, and certainly one Ernest Hemingway would never have accepted. "Bullfighting is brutal," says O'Neill. "It's bloody and it disgusted me. But I'm fascinated by the way we use tradition and festivities to get us through life. Bizarrely, we seem to have to celebrate the death of something to recognize the fact that we're still alive."

O'Neill was born and raised in dreary Scotland, so his first visit to sunny Spain as a teenager had a lasting influence on him. While ill with a debilitating disease, he read all the Hemingway and Laurie Lee books on Spain and bullfighting he could lay his hands on. Later he was privileged to meet Lee, who generously supplied O'Neill with the addresses of Spanish friends.

The author traveled all over Spain to see bullfights. In Pamplona despite his fear of crowds, he determined to participate in the annual bull run for the sake of his book. At the last minute he got cold feet. Just as well: The bulls gored scores of runners.

David Brauner

The New York Times BESTSELLERS

HARDCOVER Fiction

1. Bag of Bones by Stephen King. (Scribner \$28.) A series of terrifying events besets a bestselling novelist.
2. Rainbow Six by Tom Clancy. (Putnam \$27.95.) John Clark, head of an international task force, investigates terrorist incidents in Europe.
3. The Long by Nicholas Evans. (Delacorte \$25.95.) A biologist faces professional and romantic problems while trying to protect wolves in Montana.
4. The Reef by Nora Roberts. (Putnam \$23.95.) Searching for a jeweled artifact in the depths of the Caribbean, a woman deals with mysteries and romance.
5. The Hundred Days by Patrick O'Brian. (Norton \$24.) In 1815, Jack Aubrey and Stephen Maturin must intercept a shipment of gold intended to aid Napoleon.
6. Tell Me Your Dreams by Sidney Sheldon. (Morrow \$26.) Three women suspected of committing brutal murders undergo a bizarre trial with a curious defense.
7. Welcome to the World, Baby Girl by Fannie Flagg. (Random House \$25.95.) The pleasures and problems of the rising star of a 1970s television show.
8. I Know This Much Is True by Wally Lamb. (Farrar Books/HarperCollins \$27.50.) A troubled man must care for his schizophrenic twin.
9. Memoirs of a Geisha by Arthur Golden. (Knopf \$25.) The life of a young woman who has to reinvent herself after World War II begins.
10. By the Light of My Father's Smile by Alice Walker. (Random House \$22.95.) A black American family experiences enlightenment in the Sierras of Mexico.

HARDCOVER Non-fiction

1. Tuesdays with Morrie by Mitch Albom. (Doubleday \$19.95.) A former secretary tells of his weekly visits to his old college mentor, who was near death's door.
2. The Death of Outrage by William J. Bennett. (Free Press \$19.95.) A former secretary of education takes a critical view of the Clinton presidency.
3. The Ten Commandments by Laura Schieffer and Stewart Vogel. (CPI Street/HarperCollins \$24.) The radio psychologist and a rabbi discuss the contemporary significance of the Ten Commandments.
4. Lindbergh by A. Scott Berg. (Putnam \$30.) The checked life of Charles A. Lindbergh.
5. Pure Drive by Steve Martin. (Hyperion \$19.95.) Humor pieces by the actor, comedian and writer.
6. His Bright Light by Danielle Steel. (Delacorte \$25.) The novel recalls the life of her son Nick Traina, who suffered from manic depression and died at 19.
7. Just Jackie by Edwin Klein. (Ballantine \$25.95.) The life of Jacqueline Crossin from the assassination of President Kennedy to her death, 31 years later.
8. The Professor and the Madman by Simon Winchester. (HarperCollins \$22.) How an American who was a certified lunatic and a murderer helped James Murray compile the Oxford English Dictionary.
9. A Pirate Looks at Fifty by Jimmy Buffet. (Random House \$24.95.) The singer reflects on his life.
10. Eat the Rich by P.J. O'Rourke. (Atlantic Monthly \$24.) The humorist's treatise on economics and the business world.

PAPERBACK Fiction

1. Divine Secrets of the Ya-Ya Sisterhood by Rebecca Wells. (Harper Perennial \$13.50.) Three generations of Southern women.
2. What Looks Like Crazy on an Ordinary Day by Pearl Cleage. (Avon \$12.) Returning to her rustic hometown, a woman finds many changes — and romance.
3. Cold Mountain by Charles Frazier. (Vintage \$13.) A wounded Confederate soldier journeys home toward the end of the Civil War to meet an old love.
4. Cat & Mouse by James Patterson. (Warner \$7.99.) Alex Cross contends with two serial killers determined to take his life.
5. One True Thing by Anna Quindlen. (Dell \$8.99.) A woman who cared for her fatally ill mother is charged with finding her.
6. Flood Tide by Olive Cussler. (Pocket \$7.99.) Dirk Pitt in pursuit of a notorious Chinese smuggler.
7. The Elusive Flame by Kathleen E. Woodiwiss. (Avon \$14.) An artist, destitute in Georgian London, manages to return to her native America.
8. Beloved by Toni Morrison. (Pume \$12.95.) Memories of her past haunt an escaped slave in post-Civil War Ohio.
9. Special Delivery by Danielle Steel. (Dell \$8.50.) Romance comes to a pair who once disliked each other.
10. The Notebook by Nicholas Sparks. (Warner Vision \$5.99.) A World War II veteran meets an old flame who is about to be married.

PAPERBACK Non-fiction

1. The Seat of the Soul by Gary Zukav. (Fireside/\$8.95.) How daily activities can be enhanced by feelings of meaning and purpose.
2. The Perfect Storm by Sebastian Junger. (Harper Paperbacks \$6.99.) The story of the nor'easter of 1991.
3. The Starr Report. (Pocket \$5.99; Forum/Prima \$9.99; Public Affairs \$10.) The findings of the independent counsel.
4. Into Thin Air by Jon Krakauer. (Anchor/Doubleday \$7.99.) A journalist's account of his ascent on Mt. Everest in 1996, the deadliest season in history.
5. The Millionaire Next Door by Thomas J. Stanley and William D. Danko. (Pocket \$14.) An analysis of the lives of wealthy Americans.
6. Under the Tuscan Sun by Frances Mayes. (Broadway \$13.) A celebration of the Italian countryside.
7. Why People Don't Heal and How They Can by Caroline Myss. (Three Rivers \$14.) How beliefs about healing have changed.
8. Anatomy of the Spirit by Carolyn Myss. (Three Rivers \$14.) Holistic medicine.
9. Citizen Soldiers by Stephen E. Ambrose. (Touchstone/\$8.95.) The US Army from Normandy to Germany's surrender.
10. A Child Called "It" by Dave Pelzer. (Health Communications \$9.95.) The story of a man who survived his mother's abuse.

PAPERBACK Miscellaneous

1. Dr. Atkins' New Diet Revolution by Robert C. Atkins. (Avon \$6.50.) Ways to lose weight and achieve a healthy body.
2. Don't Sweat the Small Stuff... and It's All Small Stuff by Richard Carlson. (Hyperion \$8.95.) How to enjoy life more and contribute to the world we live in.
3. Protein Power by Michael R. Eades. (Bantam \$6.50.) Two physicians offer a low-carbohydrate plan for losing weight.
4. Chicken Soup for the Teenage Soul compiled by Jack Canfield, Mark Victor Hansen and Kimberly Kirberger. (Health Communications \$12.95.) Inspirational stories.

HARDCOVER Miscellaneous

1. The 9 Steps to Financial Freedom by Suze Orman. (Crown \$23.) Practical and spiritual steps for managing money.
2. If Life Is a Game, These are the Rules by Cherie Carter-Scott. (Broadway \$15.) Ways to achieve a fulfilling life.
3. Sugar Busters by H. Leighton Steward et al. (Ballantine \$22.) A diet designed for losing weight, increasing energy and combating disease.
4. In the Meantime by Iyania Vanzant. (Simon & Schuster \$23.) Ways to find what you truly need, particularly the love that you want.

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'Birthright' is the answer

Next month, when the Council of Jewish Federations holds its first ever General Assembly in Israel, in honor of our Jubilee, its members, even as they celebrate, will no doubt ponder some disturbing facts. That the statistics are well known does not make them any less alarming: The number of Jews in the world is steadily declining. Three million out of the estimated 10 million to 13 million Jews worldwide have only one Jewish parent. A full 50 percent of the Jews in North America — still the largest Jewish community in the world — are expected to marry a non-Jew.

Looking for a way to reverse this slide, the CJF conventioners need only look out their hotel windows. Over the last 50 years, identification with Israel has been a major component of Jewish identity in the Diaspora in general, and in North America in particular. It is no coincidence that the weakening of this identification has been accompanied by an erosion of Jewish identity. Restoring Israel's place in the collective Jewish consciousness should be a top priority of every federation on the North American continent.

The extent to which ties to Israel have been waning among US Jews over the past generation has been well documented in a recent study conducted by Hebrew University sociologist Steven M. Cohen. Cohen, measuring ethnic identity as distinct from religious identity, surveyed 1,000 Jews. While faith in God, ritual observance, and religious commitment appear to be stable, only 20% of those surveyed think it is essential to support Israel. Visiting Israel at least once is considered essential to being a good Jew by even fewer respondents, 18%. Those who agreed that "Israel is critical to sustaining American Jewish life" barely came to a majority. Most tellingly, overall "Israel attachment" among Jews 55 or older was 46%; among those 25-34, it dropped to 23%.

To anyone familiar with the development of Jewish identity in America, these figures should be disquieting, to say the least. In the 1950s and '60s, as Americans in general went through a wrenching debate over the role of ethnicity in what had formerly been regarded as a melting pot but is by now celebrated as a multicultural society, there were three main themes around which Jewish identity coalesced among young Jews: remembrance of the Holocaust, the struggle to free Soviet Jews, and identification with Israel.

While Holocaust remembrance is still high on the agenda of the American Jewish community, with much attention focusing on both national and local museums, the passage of time and of

the generation that lived through it inevitably erodes the centrality that the Holocaust can command in the collective consciousness. The vast rallies for Soviet Jews, once a staple of Jewish activism in America, are no more, because the Soviet Union, before its collapse, opened the gates. The weakening of ties to Israel, therefore, does not augur well for the future of the American Jewish community.

Part of the problem can be traced to the decline in Israel's image over the past 25 years. The ups and downs of the peace process, along with IDF actions against Palestinians that appear brutal in televised depictions, have confused American Jews, who in contrast had no doubts which side to support when Israel was threatened during the Six Day and the Yom Kippur wars. Alienation over the increasing cloud of the religious parties and the fractious debate over Who is a Jew have further eroded our image.

But the biggest single factor of all might simply be the fact that so few American Jews have ever spent any time at all here during their lives. Indeed, fully a third of those surveyed in Cohen's study agreed or strongly agreed with the statement "Israel is a dangerous place to visit."

Exhaustive studies conducted by a number of different researchers have revealed that a single visit to Israel is, more than anything else, a decisive indicator of lifelong attachment to Jewish identity. Even a visit lasting a few weeks can make a major difference. And those who spend a year or more here are almost guaranteed to continue involving themselves in the Jewish community.

The time has therefore come for the world Jewish community, through its philanthropic organizations, to fully adopt MK Yossi Beilin's "Birthright" initiative. The best possible investment in the future of Judaism is the implementation of Birthright's plan: to grant every Jewish boy and girl an all-expenses-paid three-week trip to Israel, including flight accommodations, and an intensive tour schedule — on his or her 17th birthday, the most critical age for forging identity for adulthood. Those who wish to stay longer and further explore their identity will certainly be encouraged to do so. Those who return will take with them much more than the memory of a fun trip abroad. If done correctly, a successful Birthright program can make the difference in terms of Jewish commitment for future generations. The trips themselves will be granted as gifts to the 17-year-olds, but in reality the Jewish community as a whole will be giving itself a gift and an investment — with incalculable returns.

May 4 error

MOSHE ZAK

As the Wye Plantation summit ends, I wonder whether I should apologize to readers for an error in my article "The blessed national consensus," (October 2).

I don't dispute the importance of national consensus, but I only wonder whether the government (with total backing from the opposition) adopted the right tactics in ringing the warning bells against Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat's intention to announce unilaterally, on May 4, 1999, a Palestinian state.

It's possible that the commotion Israel caused was unnecessary. It has acted as a boomerang against us at the Wye summit. It is indeed possible that there was no need for Israel to persuade the US to pressure Arafat not to include in his United Nations speech a threat to establish a Palestinian state next May.

With hindsight, it seems Israel's protest was exaggerated. Israel had a better option: not to panic at Arafat's statement, and let him tell the UN General Assembly the same things he has said on many other occasions.

Immediately afterwards, Dore Gold, Israel's ambassador to the UN, could have gotten up and made it clear that the unilateral statement was an infringement of the Oslo Agreement, and that Israel reserves the right to respond as it sees fit.

Maybe it would have been preferable to let the Palestinians guess what risks they were taking by making a unilateral declaration. Our running to the Americans for help in this matter was interpreted by Arafat as weakness on Israel's part. This led to his response — to Israel's claim that establishment of the Palestinian state on May 4, 1999 without previous agreement with Israel would be a gross breach of the Oslo Agreement — that on May 4, the Oslo Agreement would no longer exist.

He claimed that the Oslo Agreement is only in force for five years, and will expire on May 4, and so therefore he won't need any negotiations with Israel to establish a Palestinian state.

Israel wanted to draw the Americans' attention to the dangers inherent in a unilateral declaration on May 4, and thus delay it. But the government succeeded too well in its lobbying. The American team was persuaded that May 4 was a critical date, on which hostilities were liable to break out between Israel and the Palestinians, unless they managed to arrange a new Israeli-Palestinian agreement in place of Oslo.

THE US is concerned by any bloodshed that threatens peace, especially in the Middle East, where it is involved in mediating the Arab-Israeli conflict. But this doesn't justify immediately defining every disagreement between Israel and the Palestinian Authority as a danger to peace.

Negotiating under the threat of war upsets the equilibrium between the sides and forces the mediator to favor the party threatening bloodshed. Since Israel hasn't used threats, it should take care not to get into a situation in which the mediator anticipates an outbreak of hostilities.

This is what makes me wonder whether we were wrong to frighten the Americans and persuade them to talk to the Palestinians so as to convince Arafat to omit one sentence from his speech. No disaster would have happened had he uttered that sentence in front of the UN assembly. He already declared Palestinian independence 10 years ago. Under today's conditions, with Palestinian territory made up of a complicated patchwork of areas, he can't maintain it without help from Israel.

But it seems that by turning to the US, we unintentionally gave Arafat indirect assistance in opening a dialogue with Washington on the US position concerning an

Dry Bones



independent Palestinian state.

We were the direct cause of the American suggestion that both sides should avoid unilateral actions during the period of negotiations. This suggestion is wrong and unbalanced. Israel was required to undertake to stop building in the settlements, including any extension of existing settlements, in return for a Palestinian commitment not to declare a Palestinian state during the negotiating period. But the Palestinians didn't intend to declare a state unilaterally during the negotiations, but only later, after the expiration of the Oslo Agreement.

And we are not yet sure that this is the only undertaking that Arafat gained. Perhaps he also received a secret promise from the White House, on the lines of Hillary Clinton's remarks of support concerning Palestinian aspiration for a state of their own. This naive

support for Palestinian independence is packed with explosives.

If the PA is entitled to bring in millions of Palestinians to the small territory under its control, it will sow millions of seeds for the next war. If the Palestinian state invites the armies of the Arab countries to provide assistance with its security, it will lay the foundations for massive bloodshed. The questions of water, sources and safe access to Jewish settlements are a guarantee for continual pressure towards more widespread and serious hostilities than the terrorism of the present.

So, much as we desire peace negotiations with the Palestinians, we don't want talks accompanied by a background of terrorism and threats of bloodshed. Such talks will not result in peace.

They are just a temporary bandage over an inflammatory situation.

The View From the East

DAUD KUTTAB

Now comes the people's part

By the time this article is in print, Palestinian and Israeli leaders are expected to have reached an agreement at the Wye Plantation summit.

Months, even years have elapsed without the implementation of some of the basic tenants of the Oslo Agreement. Many of that agreement's basic clauses that are connected directly to the well-being of the people of the region — specifically the Palestinians — have not been carried out.

Under the guise of national security, the Israeli occupiers have refused to allow Palestinians a safe passage from Gaza to the West Bank, to let Palestinians fly from an airport that has been ready for some time or to release prisoners (including those who support the peace agreement) from jail.

Economic development of Palestine has also been frustrated by the refusal of the Netanyahu government to fulfill clauses in the agreement that should have seen the Israeli army withdraw — in stages — almost two years ago.

All these issues could have been implemented a long time ago. They were held up by the present Israeli government so that they could be used as bargaining chips. Israeli military control should never have been allowed to turn into a license for subjugating the Palestinian people and trying to extract political concessions from the Palestinian leadership.

Long before the Wye meeting, Israeli leaders had been posturing. Decision were made, or rather not made, according to the whim of the people in power. By and large, these actions — or rather inaction — were carried out for selfish reasons that had nothing to do with the security situation or with the desires of both the Israeli and Palestinian peoples of the area.

When all the details of the Wye agreement emerge, I am sure we will discover that the leaders have accepted many issues that they had been holding out on for months.

All of a sudden redeployment, opening an airport in Gaza, allowing free travel on a safe passage road and releasing prisoners will

no longer constitute a grave danger to the State of Israel.

The question then is not how the leaders have managed to reach agreement, but why it has taken so long.

If anything, the sad conclusion of all these deliberations is that politicians have been holding both our peoples hostage. The well-being of ordinary Israelis and Palestinians have taken a back seat to the lust for power and control of a few people in positions of authority.

Now, thanks to President Clinton and King Hussein and the perseverance of our people, this lust of the politicians is being replaced by common sense. If things go as planned, we should slowly be seeing the collapse of the wicked machine of occupation.

At long last, Palestinians will begin to enjoy some of the basic features of normality. Moving from one place to another, seeing loved ones, going to the university of one's choice, flying when one wants, and much more will no

longer require the pre-approval of a foreign military power.

I am not saying that the agreement at Wye is going to solve the Palestinian problem. It will take a lot more summits and even much more goodwill before we can begin solving this complicated problem.

As the Israeli occupation system slowly crumbles, I am sure we will have to deal with another issue: apartheid. With the military out of most of the Palestinian territories, the evils of a two-tier legal system will quickly emerge as the next major obstacle to overcome.

For now, we need to celebrate this small victory. One small symptom of this terrible 20th-century conflict will hopefully be behind us.

Thank God that this human ordeal is now in its last, dying hours. With an agreement being signed, it is hoped that the tactic of using people as a way of blackmailing one's political opponents will no longer be used. Now comes the time for the people of the region to benefit.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

UMM EL-FAHM

Sir, — I am a US citizen now living in Israel. I made my first visit here shortly after the establishment of the 3rd Jewish Commonwealth. During this visit I was taken on a tour, including a trip along Wadi Ara.

I vividly recall the dismal desolation that existed there then. I recently visited the same road, which is now a modern highway, and was amazed and delighted to see the obvious prosperity and the large ornate villas of the Arab citizens in their rapidly expanding settlements extending for miles along the highway — including Umm el-Fahm — the site of the riots (Sept. 28).

The riots were ostensibly over the transfer of some farmland near Umm el-Fahm which is urgently needed for an expanded military facility.

In Israel, as in most countries, when private land is urgently needed for a public purpose, the land is transferred to public ownership, with appropriate compensation, of course. If the need for transfer is thought to be of not sufficient urgency, or if compensation is thought to be inadequate, there is full remedy through the legal system.

Instead, the residents of Umm el-Fahm decided to riot, disrupting traffic and throwing stones and fire

bombs at the police sent to restore order.

In Umm el Fahm rioters placed the lives of the police in great peril. Nevertheless, in reacting, they did not cause a single fatality among the rioters. This was certainly to their credit. Nevertheless, it was a shame and a disgrace that 800 armed police did not do what was necessary to protect the lives of members of their own force, about a dozen police ended up in hospitals with injuries.

WILLIAM SIMON D.M.D.

Kentucky/Tel Aviv.

ISRAELIS AND ARABS

Sir, — As recent events in Umm el-Fahm have clearly demonstrated, there is a growing movement within Israeli Arab communities against Israeli rule. This is a direct result of the de facto establishment of a Palestinian state, which has had the effect of emboldening the Arabs.

Few, if any, Israeli Arabs are Israeli by choice. Many are descendants of Arabs who migrated here in the last 100 years as a result of the Jewish immigration and consequent economic devel-

opment of the country.

As the fledgling Palestinian "State" is practically speaking a *fait accompli* both sides (i.e. Israeli and Palestinian) must compromise with regard to population as well as land. Whilst the Jewish residents of Judea and Samaria have the right to live in their ancestral home, as a matter of practical politics, they may have to forgo such rights.

Similarly, the Arab residents of Israel, whose families may have been here for a hundred years or

more, may have to forgo their rights of residents in Israel. This has happened in many other parts of the world, as well as to the Jews from Arab countries.

Whilst this would mean Israel giving up rather more than the 13 percent currently being negotiated, Israeli Arabs will in any event begin to agitate once the Palestinian state is a fact.

S. BERKOVITS

Jerusalem.

FROM OUR ARCHIVES

65 years ago: On October 22, 1933, *The Palestine Post* reported that arms and ammunition were found by the army and police during searches of a number of Arab villages and that their owners were arrested. Two men were killed by a bomb which exploded on the Hefzaj railway line and the train from Damascus arrived in Haifa four hours behind schedule.

1948, *The Palestine Post* reported the capture of Beersheba by Israeli armored column. The last strongholds of Egyptian resistance in this area and in the Judean Hills fell at noon. Twelve hours later, at midnight, the Acting UN Mediator, Dr. Ralph Bunche ordered a cease-fire.

25 years ago: On October 22, 1973, *The Jerusalem Post* reported that Israeli troops expanded

further their bridgehead on the east bank of the Suez Canal, rolling back the Egyptian defenses to a distance of 25 to 30 km. along the 40 km. wide front. Seventeen Egyptian and 15 Syrian aircraft were shot down, including three troops carrying helicopters.

Jews abroad pledged \$2 billion for Israel's defense.

Alexander Zvielli

Hot tips

By DANIELA SCHEINELIN

The Jerusalem Post is a leading source of information on the Middle East. It provides a comprehensive view of the region, covering politics, economics, and culture. The paper is known for its in-depth reporting and analysis, making it a valuable resource for anyone interested in the Middle East. The Jerusalem Post is published daily, except on Saturdays and Jewish holidays. It is available in both print and online formats. The online version is accessible at <http://www.jpost.co.il>. The paper is published in English and Hebrew. It is a member of the International Press Syndicate. The Jerusalem Post is a leading source of information on the Middle East. It provides a comprehensive view of the region, covering politics, economics, and culture. The paper is known for its in-depth reporting and analysis, making it a valuable resource for anyone interested in the Middle East. The Jerusalem Post is published daily, except on Saturdays and Jewish holidays. It is available in both print and online formats. The online version is accessible at <http://www.jpost.co.il>. The paper is published in English and Hebrew. It is a member of the International Press Syndicate.

Weekender



A pilgrim's progress: David Hare performs his own one-man play 'Via Dolorosa' at London's Royal Court Theatre.

(Ivan Kyril)

A Hare's breadth

In his sold-out London play 'Via Dolorosa,' David Hare travels from the 'easy sensuality' of Tel Aviv to the 'pure dirt' of Gaza

By NATASHA LEHRER

As the lights came on after David Hare's performance of his play *Via Dolorosa* at London's Royal Court Theatre, I sat wiping my eyes. My emotion stemmed from the mixed feelings I have about Israel, where I used to live.

Hare, one of Britain's leading playwrights, was originally invited to participate in a trilogy of plays — one to be written by him, one by an Israeli and one by a Palestinian — to mark the 50th anniversary of the end of the British Mandate. But the trilogy fell by the wayside and Hare was left to write his piece alone.

Via Dolorosa, Hare presents an intimate, funny monologue chronicling his travels in Israel and the Palestinian autonomous areas, and his meetings with Israeli and Palestinian writers, intellectuals and politicians.

For all its simplicity and direct-

ness, *Via Dolorosa* is a beautifully structured piece of theater. Hare starts off asking question after question — why has he written a piece that demands he also perform, when he hasn't been on stage since he was a 15-year-old schoolboy? Why write a play about Israel, a country that he never even visited until he began researching this play? And what does it mean to live in a country where everybody believes in something?

"In a single day," Hare says of an Israeli friend, "he experiences events and emotions that would keep a Swede going for a year."

And, moving on, what did visiting the Jewish state mean to Hare, an avowed English atheist married to Nicole Farhi, a Jewish fashion designer?

The response to the play, which recently completed a month-long run, was terrific. Tickets sold out in days and queues for returns wound around the block every night. Another run is planned for the spring, followed by a spell in

New York.

Michael Billington in *The Guardian* said the play was "permeated by the plight of the Palestinian refugees," while David Nathan in *The Jewish Chronicle* seemed pleased to note that Hare "even has some sympathy for the settlers, the most demonized group of all among British intellectuals."

Glen Newey in *The Times Literary Supplement* ferociously attacked what he saw as Hare's "softening" of "razor-sharp" realities such as the massacre of Deir Yassin and Israel's failure to withdraw from the disputed territories "in defiance of Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338." Newey was also irritated by Hare's choice to specifically investigate the human drama of the place.

Hare is indeed careful not to get dragged into the quicksand of Middle Eastern politics, rightly recognizing that it is not the stuff of drama. His drama focuses not on UN resolutions but on the anomalies and vicissitudes of

human nature which pervade on this patch of land, "lying like a small brown anchovy set down in a school atlas."

The *Via Dolorosa*, or "road of suffering," is known as the path walked by Jesus as he carried the cross to his crucifixion. It is a main thoroughfare in Jerusalem's Old City and a present-day tourist attraction.

The many faces of the *Via Dolorosa* reflect those of Israel itself — a place interpreted differently by different viewers with a landscape that has, throughout history, been subject to the imaginative onslaught of as many minds as have encountered it.

Hare presents us with a kaleidoscope of vivid images and a clamor of articulate voices, all giving shape to a variety of competing visions and experiences. What is remarkable is that Hare has succeeded in writing an almost journalistic monologue that universalizes the particular, and particularizes the universal.

At the end of the play we return with Hare from Heathrow Airport to his home in Hampstead. "The taxi turns right and right again. Are we where we live, or are we what we think? What matters? Stones or ideas?" he asks. "My dog Blanche waking in the night to greet me, the heavy white door of my home closing behind me. *Via Dolorosa*."

For Hare, the skeptical atheist, his trip to Israel and Palestinian autonomy has been a kind of pilgrimage. His journey to the "easy sensuality" of Tel Aviv, the "big brown storm of pure dirt" that is Gaza and the suburban anomaly of the Jewish settlement of Sha'arei Tikva has led him, finally, to question his relationship to "the heavy white door" of his own comfortable home.

Via Dolorosa offers no answers to the question of how to reconcile two peoples laying claim to the same home. But, he seems to suggest that everyone has a need to mark their own territory, to put down roots, to build a home.

Snooker in Netanya

By SARAH HERSHENSON

The Royal Club on Kikar Ha'atzmaut is unique to Netanya, and owner Ronen Lavi claims there is no place like it in the entire Sharon region, and probably not in a quality atmosphere.

Tastefully decorated in dark woods and upholstered seating, it dispels the old-fashioned, dubious image of a snooker hall. Six carved and highly polished, mahogany snooker tables, made in London boast green felt playing surfaces in fine condition.

During the day, the club serves a main dish plus salad and drink for NIS 35 — as well as other items on the menu. As soft light filters in through the windows and the place is hushed, it's hard to believe that this is Israel.

In the evening, however, the club livens up. A well-stocked bar and five video games are busy while people wait for a snooker table to free up.

"Royal Club has been in business for 10 years," says Lavi. "We are fully licensed by the Netanya police department for liquor, snooker and cards. The rules are on the door: Customers are admitted only if they are properly dressed and over 16 years of age, liquor is sold to those over 18, and there is no open gambling. If the players decide among themselves to lay wagers on the game, that is up to them. Remember, this is Netanya — not Jericho."

Snooker tables are rented by the hour — NIS 35 for the tables nine feet in length and NIS 40 for the 12-foot table.

"It takes about three minutes for good players to complete a game," says Lavi, referring to the mini-version of the sport, involving only three rather than 15 red balls.

Beer sells for NIS 10 for a quarter-liter, NIS 13 for a half-liter and NIS 18 for a liter pitcher. Chivas whiskey is NIS 35 per glass and wine is between NIS 50 and NIS 150 per bottle. Platters of fish, meat, or pasta are NIS 49.

"Initially, we invested thousands of dollars to bring in the best equipment from abroad and we spend to maintain it," says Lavi. "Some people bring their own cues. However, we have more than enough." The club is open from 11 a.m. to 3 a.m.

11 Kikar Ha'atzmaut, Netanya

Classics on my mind

Playwright Miriam Kainy talks about her biggest influences

Playwright Miriam Kainy is a rebel and a feminist; the kind who says that women matter, have a voice and power, and should use both.

Her plays' heroines are usually sexy, gutsy women, survivors with a bit of a chip on their shoulder and a lusty, ironic sense of humor, much like the lady herself.

She was born in Vienna in 1942 and came to Israel with her family in 1950. They managed to stay one step ahead of the Nazis all through the war, probably because her father was a soldier in the Red Army and the family went with him.

Kainy grew up in Haifa. Today she lives in Tel Aviv with her husband, the painter/clarinetist Harold Rubin. She has three daughters, "and I'll become a grandmother in January," she says, laughing with astonishment and delight.

She started writing when she was "still a little girl," but published her first play only at 30, a piece called *The Return*, which had a very short-lived career at the Cameri Theater in 1973.

Since then there have been 13 plays for both adults and youth, most of them hits. They include *Bianca* (1996), *End of the Dream Season* ('91) *Do You Get Me Right* ('90) *Bavia* ('87) and the long-running monodrama *Like a Bullet in the Head* ('81). Currently she's working on a new play, *Chivas on God's Bar*.

There's not a single woman among the authors she's chosen, but as Kainy would probably say, sharply, greatness is not a matter of gender.

1. William Shakespeare and *Macbeth*

"What can I say? He's the greatest [Western] playwright of all time. Just as Homer shaped Greek culture, so Shakespeare shaped that of England, and he remains the milestone for all contemporary Western culture. People remember Julius Caesar because Shakespeare wrote a play about him. He is all-embracing, inclusive and his emotional depth is the most astounding of all."

"I came to Shakespeare in my teens through Shlonsky's Hebrew translation of *Romeo and Juliet*. When I was 17, I started to read *Hamlet* in English because I couldn't understand the Hebrew translation, so Shakespeare helped me learn English too."

"*Macbeth* is his best, most contemporary play. It looks at what happens to an essentially decent man who lets himself be corrupted, a totally current situation."

2. Leo Tolstoy and *War and Peace*

"Not that his other works aren't good, but if he hadn't written *War and Peace*, which I think is the greatest novel of all time, I wouldn't have chosen him."

"Like Shakespeare, his ability to observe is huge and he has descriptive powers to match. He sees human beings from inside



and from outside. He also chose a fascinating period of human history, both during and after the war. [The novel deals with Napoleon's invasion of Russia in 1812.]

"I first read it at 14 after my teacher had told me I was too young. I've read it about 10 times since then."

3. Johann Wolfgang von Goethe and *Faust*

"I got the play in German as a bat-mitzva gift, and my father made me read it and would quiz me on what I'd read so that I'd learn good German. I never read it again in German after that, only in Hebrew."

"I like Goethe because he was wild. He was a count and led a wild life. *Faust* and *Werther* are autobiographical."

"He's not the greatest playwright in the world, but like Shakespeare and Tolstoy, he has a discerning eye and the ability to probe the darker secrets of the human soul. And let's face it! There's something very romantic about the man and his works."

4. The Bible

"The Bible connects me to Jewishness and Israeliness and to all of Christian culture, because the Bible is the basis for that. I learned Hebrew through the Bible because I didn't know a word when I arrived."

"Everything is there, everything: history, the huge dramas, love, hate, betrayal, all there, and layer upon layer of the laws that formed our society — and I mean the whole of Western society, not just the Jews. It has no religious meaning for me other than the collective memory it represents."

5. Bertolt Brecht and *Herr Puntila and His Man Matti*

"Like the others, Brecht can see what makes people tick. He wasn't a particularly admirable human being and for me the play is representative of his personality. He stole the play from a Finnish playwright who sued him for plagiarism. He invited her to Berlin, got her to go to bed with him, and persuaded her to drop the suit. The play would be performed everywhere in the world but Finland, he told her, and she agreed!"

"I taught the play in Hebrew when I taught high school for a while. Of course I've read it in German."

— Helen Kaye

Hot tips

By DAHLIA SCHEINDLIN

Tel Aviv

Take me out to the theater tonight! *Medea*, starring the ever-poised Gila Almagor, plays tonight at Habimah, starting at 8:30.

But that's only the beginning. At Tzavta, *Shringara* is playing starting at 9 p.m. Written by Limor Ginsberg, this is the story of a 20-something woman searching for — what else? — true love.

Touch Wood is a one-man show starring Shmuelik Calderon, playing at the Cinematheque starting at 7 p.m.

And then the options get tough: Be one of the first to see the second part of Ensemble Ilim's Bible Project. Under the masterful direction of Rina Yerushalmi, *Vayomer Vayelech* has been a smashing success until now, and therefore if you can spare three hours tonight or tomorrow afternoon, *Veyishtachu Veyireh* should be

equally promising. It does mean making your way to the Ramat Gan Theater (8 tonight, 1 p.m. Friday, 03-523-1248).

If you're too tired for the shelep, stay right in the center of town until Saturday night, when the ZOA House hosts Khipa Theater. The creators of *Middle Ages* now perform *Wanted*, a terribly fun mixture of ideas that touches genius in its creativity. Starting at 9 p.m. Call 03-695-0156.

Music is also available this evening, with jazz the overriding theme. At ZOA House, Hamesh Besh performs at the basement venue, starring Michael Rosen on sax. It starts at 10:30. Camelot presents the Daily Blues tonight with Chicago Blues, starting at 11:30.

Otherwise, go east, with Haim Moshe's Mizrahi crooning. Moshe and his troupe play at Hafaka 2000, 4 Shontzino Street in Tel Aviv. Call 03-561-7777.

We won't take the responsibility of classifying Myumana, but there is definitely a musical thrill involved. See this whirling, twirling, jumping, twisting and beating gang tonight and tomorrow at Tzavta. Call for show times: 03-527-9955.

Just say Yes! Young English Speakers (YES) meet tonight for "shmooze, booze and billiards." Here's the Anglo's opportunity to take Tel Aviv. If shoozing and boozing isn't your thing, plot the revolution. Cafe Noga at Pnisker and Allenby. Call 03-613-6306 for



Haim Moshe sings in Tel Aviv.

(Sami Ben-David)

information.

Feeling like a flick? Lucky ticket holders (maybe if you call this very minute...) can see Roberto Benini's *La Vita e Bella*, the critically acclaimed, highly sophisticated film about the Holocaust that was shown this summer at the Jerusalem Film Festival. At the Gat tonight, and other theaters in Haifa, Netanya, Rehovot, etc. (No English subtitles.)

The Beersheba Theater brings its work to Ramat Gan tonight,

with *Danny and the Blue Sea*, a play about two people "on the brink." At the Russel, starting at 8:30 p.m.

Jerusalem

A major Jewish festival occurs this evening, at the Jerusalem International Convention Center (Binayoni Ha'uma.) The Fourth Annual Reb Shlomo Carlebach Memorial Concert celebrates cantorial work, with Mussa Berlin,

klezmer maestros, and many more, at 8 p.m. Call 02-672-3094.

Feeling like an Israeli pioneer instead? Folk dancing is happening! Beginners start at 8 p.m., and the levels advance with the night, at Beit Hanoar Ha'ivri. This is always a cheap, fun way to get some exercise, and meet other obsessive Israeli dancing types. At 105 Herzog Street. Call 052-676820.

Points Beyond

The eclectic group Hakol Over Habibi plays a tribute tonight to the one and only Naomi Shemer, as if she hasn't had enough tributes to her work this year. But one more can't hurt! At Heichal Cinema in Petah Tikva, starting at 8:30.

Jazz travels north tonight, all the way up to scenic Tivon's Havat Hahayot. Starting at 10:30, catch the Ronnie Peterson Blues Band. Call 04-983-7043.

If you can only make it as far as Netanya, hit the end of the Shirat Hayanim International Choir Competition, for the final performances.

For visual astonishment, take the whole family to see Ensemble BatSheva (the BatSheva Dance troupe's training group) perform *Zachacha* tonight, at Kadima. Lots of romping, stomping, wall-climbing and audience participation, all performed by dancers in clown costumes. At the Kadima Heichal Hatarbut starting at 8:30.

Weekender Food & Drink

Never too late for tofu



Creators Syndicate

Even now, tofu is an outsider to mainstream American tables. But once you let this versatile flavor magnet in the door, you'll have a friend for life, Dorothy Foltz-Gray and Paulette Mitchell write

One day recently, I was working at the home of a colleague when we broke for lunch. She plucked Bibb lettuce from her garden, went into her sunny kitchen, and cut fresh-baked whole-wheat bread. Then she did something that never would have occurred to me: She sliced off some tofu and sautéed it in a lightly oiled skillet. As I watched from a stool next to the tile counter, baking in the warmth from a picture window, and perhaps feeling slightly skeptical, she piled our sandwiches high and tempting. With one bite, I became what I never expected to be: a tofu convert.

Tofu — white, cheese-like blocks made from soy-milk curds — is a storehouse of vitamins and minerals, including folic acid and iron. As much as half of tofu's calories can come from fat — about 3 gr. in 90 gr. — but in light versions, the ratio plummets to 1 gr. in 90 gr. None of the fat is saturated, the type associated with clogged arteries.

The blandness is a virtue, as the Chinese knew when they dubbed tofu "meat of the fields." What better vessel to soak up pungent sauces and fiery spices?

Tofu isn't merely neutral. It comes in a range of textures and flavors: silken (excellent for whipping into dips, salad dressings, cheesecakes, and milk shakes); soft (also good for mashing and pureeing); and firm and extra-firm (for crumbling into lasagna, chili, or spaghetti sauce, or for slicing in sautés and stir-fries).

Silken tofu comes ready to use and is therefore easier to work with than some other varieties, which require a little prep time. What I like best about silken is how easily it takes to pureeing; it's a great base for fruit, honey, and a sprinkle of cinnamon. Or some-

times I blend it with avocado, tomatoes, cilantro, garlic, and jalapenos for a creamy guacamole.

No longer exotic or an avenue to a failed meal, tofu has earned a valued place in my easy-to-make repertoire. And with the recipes that follow, it can easily be a star in your kitchen, no matter what the meal.

PENNE WITH TOFU-BASIL PESTO

You'll be surprised how tofu picks up the rich flavors of fresh basil, garlic, and Parmesan cheese. But what sold our staff on this dish was the creamy texture. It's definitely a simple way to make tofu upscale.

1 cup fresh basil leaves
1 cup reduced-fat firm silken tofu (about 180 gr.)
1/2 cup (30 gr.) grated fresh Parmesan cheese
2 Tbsp. olive oil
2 Tbsp. fresh lemon juice
1/2 tsp. black pepper
1/2 tsp. salt
1 large garlic clove, minced
1 tsp. olive oil
2 1/2 cups sliced cremini mushrooms
4 cups minced shallots
4 cups hot cooked penne (about 225 gr. uncooked tube-shaped pasta)

Combine first 8 ingredients in a food processor or blender, and process until smooth. Place pesto in a small nonstick skillet; cook over low heat until warm. Remove from heat; keep warm.

Heat 1 tsp. olive oil in a large nonstick skillet over medium-high heat. Add the mushrooms and shallots, and sauté 4 minutes.

Combine penne, pesto, and mushroom mixture in a large bowl; toss gently.

Yield: 4 servings (serving size: 1 1/4 cups).

Calories 352 (29 percent from fat); fat 11.3g (sat 2.5g, mono 6.6g, poly 1.4g); protein 14.5g; carb 48.6g; fiber 2.1g; chol 5mg; iron 3.5mg; sodium 310mg; calc 139mg.

TOMATO-JALAPENO SOUP

A soft-textured silken tofu is best for making creamy soups. Because reduced-fat varieties of tofu are generally firm-textured, you'll need to use regular tofu for this recipe. It provides the body and texture of a cream soup with less than 5 grams of fat.

1 780 gr. can plum tomatoes, undrained
1 350 gr. package soft silken tofu, drained and divided
1 tsp. sugar
1 Tbsp. olive oil
1/2 cup finely chopped red onion
1 garlic clove, minced
1/2 cup minced fresh or 1 teaspoon dried basil
1 Tbsp. minced seeded jalapeno pepper
2 tsp. minced fresh or 1/2 teaspoon dried oregano
1/2 to 1 tsp. pepper
1/2 tsp. ground cumin
1 Tbsp. grated fresh Parmesan cheese
1 Tbsp. fresh lemon juice
1/2 tsp. salt

Combine plum tomatoes, 170 gr. drained tofu, and sugar in a food processor, and process until the tomato mixture is smooth. Heat the olive oil in a large saucepan over medium-high heat. Add the chopped onion and minced garlic, and sauté for 4 minutes.

Reduce heat to medium, and stir in the tomato mixture, minced basil, and next 4 ingredients (minced basil through ground cumin). Cook the tomato mixture

until thoroughly heated; cover soup, and keep warm.

Combine the remaining tofu, Parmesan cheese, lemon juice, and salt in a blender, and process until the cheese mixture is smooth.

Ladle the soup into each of 4 bowls, and top with the Parmesan cheese mixture. Yield: 4 servings (serving size: 1 1/2 cups soup and about 1 Tbsp. Parmesan cheese mixture).

Calories 120 (33 percent from fat); fat 4.4g (sat 0.9g, mono 1.6g, poly 1.7g); protein 8.3g; carb 14.1g; fiber 1.9g; chol 1mg; iron 2.6mg; sodium 432mg; calc 164mg.

SEASONED TOFU STEAKS AND VEGETABLE STIR-FRY WITH GINGER SAUCE

This is the kind of main dish that will wow guests or family on many different levels — lots of color, lots of texture, and lots of spice. You might want to double the recipe for the steaks for another meal. They're great stacked on a sandwich with lettuce and a few slices of grilled tomato.

Tofu steaks:
1 (350 gr.) package reduced-fat firm silken tofu, drained
1/2 cup all-purpose flour
2 Tbsp. dry bread crumbs
1/2 tsp. dried thyme
1/2 tsp. salt
1/2 tsp. paprika
1/2 tsp. freshly ground black pepper
1 large egg, lightly beaten
2 Tbsp. vegetable oil
Ginger sauce:
1/2 cup rice vinegar
1/2 cup sugar
1/2 cup water
2 Tbsp. low-sodium soy sauce
1 Tbsp. cornstarch
1/2 cup water

1 Tbsp. minced peeled fresh ginger

Vegetable stir-fry:
1 cup vegetable oil
1 cup yellow bell pepper strips
1 cup snow peas
1/2 cup chopped plum tomato
2 cups cooked angel-hair pasta or soba (wheat noodles; about 110 gr. uncooked pasta)

To prepare the tofu steaks, cut tofu lengthwise into four 1 cm thick slices. Place the tofu steaks on several layers of heavy-duty paper towels. Cover the steaks with additional paper towels, and let stand 5 minutes.

Combine flour and next 6 ingredients (flour through black pepper). Dredge each tofu steak in flour mixture. Dip into egg; dredge again in flour mixture. Heat 2 tsp. oil in a large nonstick skillet over medium-high heat. Add tofu steaks; cook 6 minutes, turning after 3 minutes. Remove from skillet; cut each tofu steak into 4 wedges. Keep warm.

To prepare the ginger sauce, combine vinegar, sugar, 1/2 cup water, and soy sauce in a small saucepan; bring to a boil over medium-high heat. Reduce heat, and simmer 3 minutes or until sugar is dissolved. Combine cornstarch and 1/2 cup water; stir into sugar mixture. Bring to a boil, and cook 1 minute or until thick. Remove from heat; stir in ginger. Keep warm.

To prepare vegetable stir-fry, heat 1 Tbsp. oil in skillet over medium-high heat. Add bell pepper and snow peas, and stir-fry 2 minutes. Add tomato, and stir-fry 1 minute. Serve over pasta, and top with ginger sauce and tofu wedges. Yield: 4 servings (serving size: 4 tofu wedges, 1/2 cup pasta, 1/2 cup vegetable stir-fry, and 1/2 cup ginger sauce).

Calories 337 (17 percent from fat); fat 6.4g (sat 1.3g, mono 1.8g, poly 2.5g); protein 15g; carb 54.3g; fiber 4.6g; chol 55mg; iron 4.1mg; sodium 533mg; calc 94mg.

SPICY ROASTED RED-PEPPER-AND-BEAN DIP
Once blended, this Tex-Mex-inspired dip reveals no sign of

tofu; it's already taken on the flavors of roasted red peppers, jalapeno, lime, and cumin. Serve with breadsticks, pita, or baked tortilla chips.

1 200-gr. bottle roasted red bell peppers, drained
1 cup reduced-fat firm silken tofu (about 180 gr.)
1/2 cup fresh parsley leaves
2 Tbsp. lime juice
1 Tbsp. extra-virgin olive oil
1/2 tsp. salt
1/2 tsp. ground cumin
2 garlic cloves, crushed
1 450-gr. can cannellini beans or other white beans, rinsed and drained
1/2 tsp. minced seeded jalapeno pepper
Sliced jalapeno pepper (optional)

Chop bell peppers to measure 1/2 cup; set aside. Place remaining bell peppers, tofu, and the next 7 ingredients (tofu through beans) in a food processor, and process until smooth. Spoon mixture into a bowl; stir in reserved 1/2 cup bell peppers and minced jalapeno. Cover and chill. Garnish with a sliced jalapeno, if desired. Yield: 2 1/2 cups (serving size: 1/2 cup).

Calories 76 (27 percent from fat); fat 2.3g (sat 0.3g, mono 1.2g, poly 0.6g); protein 4.1g; carb 10.2g; fiber 1.2g; chol 0mg; iron 1.2mg; sodium 244mg; calc 28mg.

TOFU-FRUIT SMOOTHIE
Pairing tofu with other nutritional superstars like yogurt and fresh fruit makes for a power-packed "milk shake" that's rich in calcium, vitamin C, potassium, and fiber.

1/2 cup sliced ripe banana
1/2 cup frozen sweetened sliced strawberries, partially thawed
1/2 cup soft silken tofu, drained (about 85 gr.)
1/2 cup vanilla low-fat yogurt

Combine all ingredients in a blender; process until smooth. Serve immediately. Yield: 2 servings (serving size: 1/2 cup).

Calories 180 (10 percent from fat); fat 2g (sat 0.7g, mono 0.5g, poly 0.7g); protein 6.3g; carb 36.4g; fiber 2.1g; chol 3mg; iron 0.9mg; sodium 40mg; calc 147mg.



By PHYLLIS GLAZER

Phyllis's Tips

and D, important for healthy skin, bones, teeth and eyes. In the meaty portions of fish we find B vitamins.

Ocean fish pick up minerals from the waters they inhabit. Most ocean fish are good sources of potassium and phosphorus, iodine and selenium. Shellfish are among the richest sources of zinc.

Fish canned with their bones, like salmon and sardines, also contain calcium. Some fish contain omega-3 fatty acids, which studies indicate may protect against heart disease by reducing blood cholesterol. Omega-3s are also found in large concentration in the brain and retina of the eye, which may be significant for newborns; nursing mothers can increase the amount of Omega-3s in their milk if they consume a diet rich in fish oils (prepared formulas contain almost no Omega-3s, if at all).

ON THE negative side of fish, there are several factors to consider. With the increasing pollutants in our ocean waters and no ongoing testing by the Ministry of Health, it's difficult to know whether ocean fish contain chemical residues. Sea fish are leaner fish, however, and chemical residues tend to collect in fatty areas.

Fish farming is still relatively new to Israel, new enough for it not to be carefully regulated. Some farmed fish, like St. Peter's fish (*amnun*) live in specially created inland pools. Others, like the sea bream or *denise*, live in segregated areas of the Red Sea coast. Unfortunately, significant numbers of *denise* manage to escape,

and their effect on the local sea life remains to be seen. Fish waste from these large segregated pools enters the Red Sea, creating far more waste than the local fish population can naturally handle.

Despite the obvious danger to the Eilat sea, Agriculture Minister Rafael Eitan, who is also in charge of the Environment Ministry (what a conflict of interest!) has just approved expansion of the *denise*-growing pools.

In both cases, however, farmed fish are fed a diet that includes "medicines" for various fish diseases (which are increased by the large numbers of fish grown together), and they may inhabit a pond that has been pesticide-treated to kill off disease-causing parasites.

WHAT this all boils down to is that it's probably a good idea to include fish in your diet, especially at the expense of red meat. But it's not a good idea to eat too much fish — just as it's not a good idea to eat too much of anything. Again, boring though it may sound, moderation is the key.

If you don't want to buy a fish and cook it, there's always canned fish like tuna or salmon that you can make into patties, add to salads, or eat as is.

Sardines are not only good with salad or on toast, but can be mashed with a little cream cheese and a touch of mayonnaise (1 Tbsp. cream cheese, 1 Tbsp. mayonnaise, 1 can of sardines, drained and mashed with skin and bones) and served as canapés or sandwich filling.



By PHYLLIS GLAZER

helps inhibit the growth of plaque-producing bacteria.

I bought my grandson some chocolate, and when he opened it I noticed it had a whitish tinge. Does this mean it is spoiled? Can we still eat it?

— Freda Abramson, Jerusalem

We have a nutcracker, and I like to buy nuts in their shells. We often buy almonds, walnuts, pecans, and even hazelnuts. But I've never seen cashews sold in their shells. Is this an expensive delicacy? Is there somewhere special I need to buy them? Why can't I find them as easily as the other nuts?

— Fred Katz, Beersheba

Cashews are never sold in their shells, since the oil that surrounds the shell is so irritating to the skin that it can cause blisters or irritations, just like poison ivy. (Indeed, cashews belong to the same family.) If you roast them to make the shell removal easier, your house will fill with a noxious smoke. Shelled cashews are worth eating anyway, since the oil in the nut

in warm weather, with temperature changes (like refrigerator to room temperature, or vice versa), and with age, chocolate begins to melt and the cocoa butter inside it to rise to the surface. It does not affect the quality of the chocolate, so it is not spoiled. The amount of whitish tinge can affect the flavor and texture, however. You can still eat it, but it won't be as good as fresh chocolate.

I was born in Newton, Massachusetts, and was recently told that the famous American Fig Newton cookie was named for my hometown. Is this really true? Why would anyone want to name a cookie after Newton, especially since no figs grow there?

— Nita Rigueur, Petah Tikva

Fig Newtons, the third most popular cookie in America, were created in Cambridgeport, which is near Newton, way back in 1895. Since they couldn't call the cookie Fig Cambridgeport, they looked for an alternative. "Newton" seemed to fit the bill. They were right.

One side of aluminum foil is shiny. The other is kind of dull. Does it matter which side is up when cooking or storing food?

— Hannah Richter, Herzliya

Although many people assume that the shiny side of aluminum foil should always face upwards, the truth is that it really makes no difference which side is up — the shiny and non-shiny sides are just a result of the production process.

However, I would suggest curbing your use of aluminum products as much as possible, since Alzheimer's patients have been found to possess high counts of aluminum in their brains. Use wax paper and parchment paper or reusable storage boxes to store food.

TOFU-AND-VEGETABLE STIR-FRY SALAD

You can substitute an extra-firm reduced-fat tofu for the regular variety used in this recipe, if desired.

Vinaigrette:
1/2 cup seasoned rice vinegar
2 Tbsp. low-sodium soy sauce
1/2 tsp. dark sesame oil
1 tsp. minced peeled fresh ginger
2 garlic cloves, minced
1/2 tsp. sugar
1/8 tsp. crushed red pepper—20
Salad:
110 gr. uncooked Chinese-style noodles or angel-hair pasta
4 cups shredded napa (Chinese) cabbage
1 1/2 teaspoons vegetable oil
2 cups 5-cm. sliced asparagus (about 450 gr.)
2 cups red bell pepper strips
2 cups diagonally sliced bok choy
1/2 cup chopped green onions
1350-gr. package extra-firm silken tofu, drained and cut into 5-cm. julienne strips

To prepare vinaigrette, combine first 7 ingredients in a small bowl. To prepare the salad, cook noodles according to package directions; drain and rinse with cold water. Combine 2 tablespoons vinaigrette and noodles; set aside. Combine 2 tablespoons vinaigrette and cabbage; set aside.

Heat vegetable oil in a large nonstick skillet over medium-high heat. Add asparagus, and stir-fry 5 minutes. Add bell pepper, bok choy, and onions; stir-fry 3 minutes. Add tofu and remaining vinaigrette; remove from heat. Cover and let stand 5 minutes or until tofu is heated.

Divide 1 cup cabbage mixture evenly among each of 4 plates; top each serving with 1/2 cup noodle mixture and 1/2 cups stir-fry mixture.

Yield: 4 servings.
Calories 252 (30 percent from fat); fat 8.4g (sat 1.4g, mono 2.8g, poly 4.5g); protein 15g; carb 31.9g; fiber 7.1g; chol 0mg; iron 8mg; sodium 324mg; calc 244mg.

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Weekender Travel

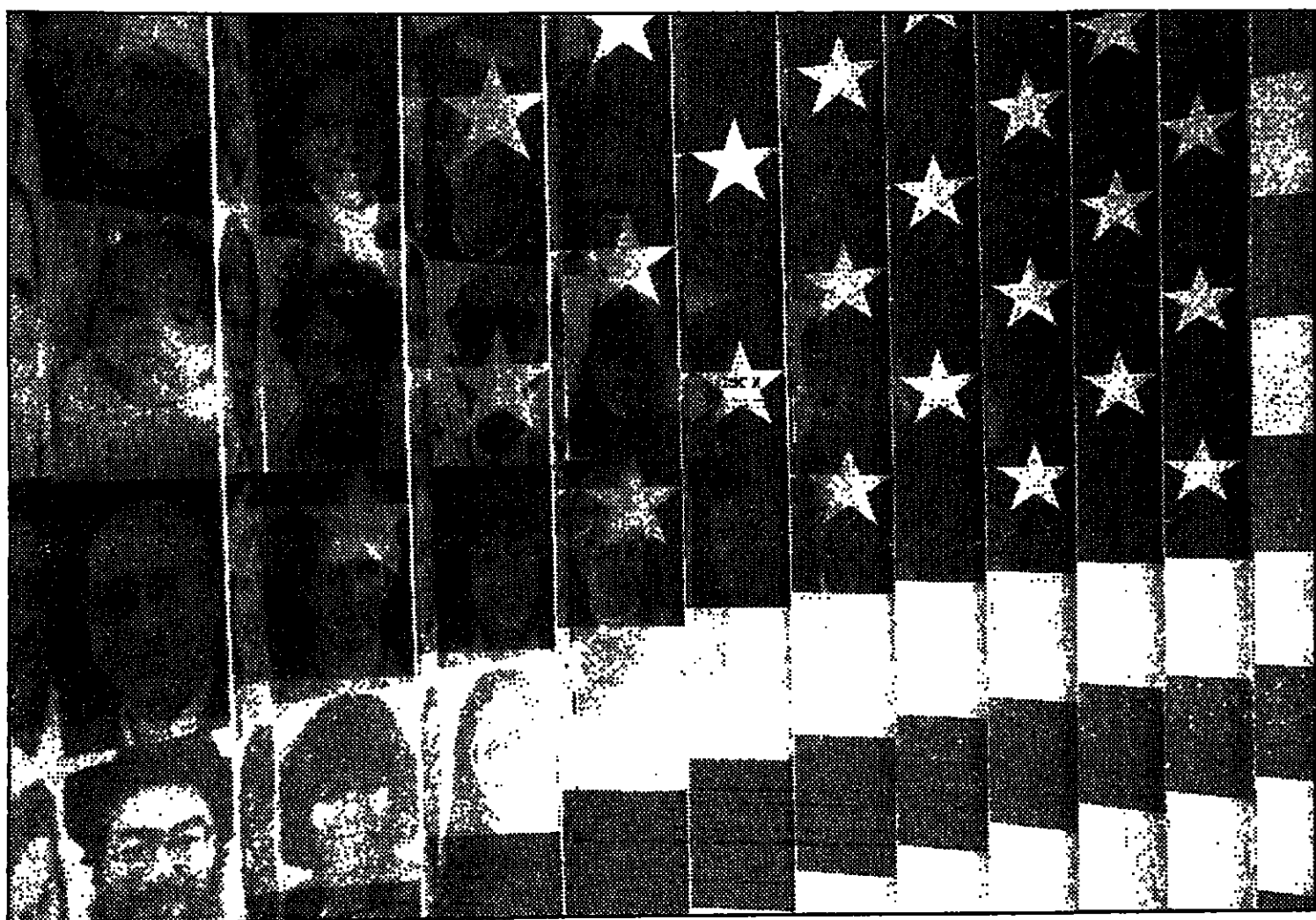
By NAEDINE JOY HAZEL

Ellis Island is more mecca than museum. Pilgrims arrive by the tens of thousands from North Carolina, Iowa, Indiana, Ohio, Washington and beyond to search for traces of immigrant relatives who came from Italy, Russia, Hungary, Austria, Germany, England, the West Indies and beyond. Some come looking for a piece of their past. Some come to honor and admire the courage of those who took part in the largest migration in the world's history. Almost everyone scans the Ellis Island Immigration Museum for a touchstone to their ancestry. Photographs, oral histories and glass cases of memorabilia, including old passports, equipment used at Ellis Island and clothing, tell the stories of millions. "Oh look, that's from Croatia. ... I'll have to tell my husband," says a woman looking at immigrant clothing in the "Treasures from Home" exhibit. She is there with her 2-year-old daughter and a friend, and

to a surly government employee. And while they waited - anywhere from three to five hours - they prayed that they would not be among the two percent who were detained or barred from entering. Of the 12 million people who passed through Ellis Island, only about 200,000 were sent back to their home countries. Detention was a split-second decision, made by doctors or officials stationed in the Registry Room as the immigrants filed past. The officials watched for those with handicaps, lice, physical and mental illnesses. The contagious ill were not allowed entry, being instead remanded to the island's hospital for treatment. "It is at once a maternity ward and an insane asylum," said a doctor who examined thousands during his years on the island. His comments can be heard at many exhibits via telephone receivers. More than 3,500 people, including 1,400 children, died on Ellis Island and 355 babies were born there. Immigrant ailments ranged from slight injuries to tropical diseases.

Many of the photographs are transfixing and poignant. The "Treasures from Home" exhibit includes two walls showing several dozen nearly life-size snapshots laid out like a photo album. ALTHOUGH accurate numbers are difficult to come by, the greatest number of immigrants to pass through Ellis Island came from Italy and Russia, followed by those from Russia, Hungary, Austria, Austria-Hungary, Germany, England, Ireland, Sweden, Greece, Norway, the Ottoman Empire, Scotland, the West Indies, Poland, Portugal, France, Denmark, Romania and the Netherlands. Many came to escape poverty and religious or political oppression. Others wanted to work and find new opportunities. Many went on to illustrious careers: Isaac Asimov arrived from Russia in 1923; Bob Hope arrived from England in 1908; Al Jolson came from Lithuania in 1894; Hyman Ricover came from Russia in 1904; Rudolph Valentino came from Italy in 1913; Irving Berlin

Where the American dream began



(Top) The ferry to Ellis Island bringing pilgrims searching for traces of immigrant relatives; (Above) A huge American flag at the island's museum changes into a wall of faces as the perspective of the viewer changes. (Photos: The Hartford Courant)

between them they are interested in relatives from Germany, Croatia, Poland, Greece, Norway, Sweden and Ireland. Their ancestors might be among the 12 million who were processed at Ellis Island from 1892 to 1954. If they are, that would make them among the 100 million Americans who have an ancestor who came through the island. IT IS poetic that on any given day the tourists at Ellis Island physically resemble, in their diversity, the immigrants who pulsed through this three-story bustling immigration center. The effect is heightened by the main building, which has been renovated to look as it did earlier this century - an imposing tiled institution, resembling a large school. On most days, the main building echoes with field-trip hilarity as visitors tread the same wide concrete stairs between floors that the immigrants did. Most of the other buildings remain in their dilapidated state and off-limits to visitors. The 1980s main building renovation, the largest in US history, is so thorough that it has obscured any lingering ghosts of the 5,000 to 10,000 ship-weary immigrants who daily passed through the halls. "It was like the Department of Motor Vehicles," a park ranger said before a showing of the 30-minute film about the island experience. "You were put into a big room and waited long hours to talk

many worsened by week-long to month-long ship journeys below decks in steerage, later called third class. Only the poor were processed at Ellis Island. The first- and second-class ship passengers were processed by immigration officials on board their ships and then brought to New York. DETENTION at Ellis Island was particularly hard for immigrants, who usually arrived with little more than one bag of belongings, the \$25 required by law and the name of a relative or friend. Many could not speak the language and feared anyone in an official capacity since government authorities were rarely helpful in their home countries. Martha Knaupp Kohlroser, who arrived from Germany in 1927, recalled the terror of being separated from her detained father. "I have a vivid memory of seeing him holding us by the hands through an iron fence. He was not permitted in the room with us. With tears running down his cheeks, he asked me [at age 7] to take care of the children as best I could," Knaupp Kohlroser says in one of the exhibits. It is not uncommon to see visitors wipe away tears at the exhibits. But there are lighter moments as well - moments when immigrants recalled their first exposure to "foreign" foods like white bread, doughnuts, ice cream, Jell-O and bananas.

came from Russia in 1893; Golda Meir arrived from Russia in 1906. "I can remember only the hustle and bustle of those last weeks in Pinsk... the farewell from the family, the embraces, the tears. Going to America then was almost like going to the moon," Meir recalled in later years. The immigrants' fears and hopes are emphasized in a 30-minute free film, *Island of Hope, Island of Tears*, narrated by actor Gene Hackman, that is shown at the museum every 45 minutes. Being a National Historic landmark is the latest incarnation for this island, which was named for its owner, Samuel Ellis, in the 1770s. He sold it to New York State, which in turn sold it to the federal government in 1808 when it was transformed into a fort. After the creation of the Immigration Bureau in 1891, the US immigration station moved to Ellis Island in 1892. By the time it closed in 1954, it had processed 75% of the 16 million people who came to America during those 62 years. The museum, which opened in 1990, eventually might be joined by the American Family Immigration History Center that is under development. In its first phase, the center is collecting information on the immigrants who came through New York. (The Hartford Courant)

For information on visiting Ellis Island, visit the Web site at www.ellisland.org.

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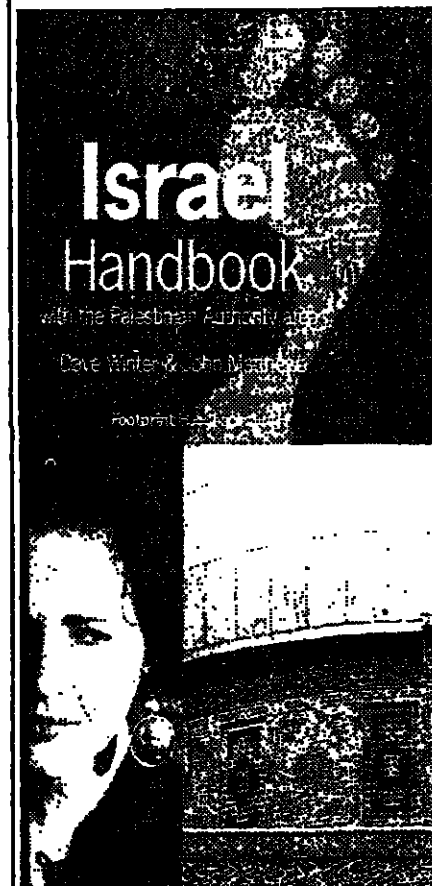
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A MUST FOR EVERY VISITOR



Although I haven't read every one of the 816 pages in this ISRAEL Handbook for tourists, travellers and visitors, those that I have read lead me to recommend it as a good book for all concerned. Published by the reputable Footprint Handbooks company it deals in detail with every little facet of the Holy Land from Archaeology to Zionism. A truly remarkable endeavour. Congratulations authors Dave Winter and John Matthews, for example Birdwatching - Israel is a superb place for bird-watching because of its location on the main migratory routes. Waiters and waitresses - most seem to have been trained at the Basil Fawly school of charm. Safety - there have been no specific terrorist attempts to target tourists (unlike in Egypt). High profile security measures enhance your safety. Food - it is not quite the gourmet paradise that the tourist literature will have you believe. Health - there are no specific health problems that you are likely to face except for too much sun and dehydration.

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Weekender Leisure

An artist's treasures

By DAVID BRAUNER

How I regret that such a wonderful invention arrived so late, as far as I am concerned," wrote French painter Eugene Delacroix in 1854. Unlike many artists of his time who felt threatened by the scientific coldness of photography, Delacroix (1789-1863) warmly welcomed the camera as a new and helpful tool. He considered photographs "treasures for an artist."

Delacroix, who became a founding member of the Societe Heliographique, France's first photographic circle, used photographs primarily for anatomical studies. He was intrigued by the tonal delicacies in muscles and the foreshortening of limbs that were captured in photographs but which "the eye corrects without our being conscious of it."

The Impressionist Edgar Degas (1834-1917) was also a champion of photography. Fascinated by dancers and movement, he found photography's ability to arrest motion invaluable to his work. The human eye is simply unable to make "stop-action" shots. The camera also helped Degas solve problems of scale and perspective. Degas owned a camera in the 1890s and took many pictures. As a result, he adopted new pictorial conventions — like unexpected truncations of figures, odd angles, precarious imbalance, blur and overlapping — and introduced them into his painting. Degas also used "framing" as a device for cutting off limbs, and the advent of cinema led him to sketch sequential images of dancers and horses, almost like moving pictures.

There was also a practical side to using photographs. Models hired by the hour could be photographed in minutes. And photography eliminated the need to make so many sketches.

These days, of course, illustrators, sculptors and painters have come to fully accept that photography can be of invaluable assistance to their work. Indeed, many artists totally rely on pictures.

The camera can bring pictures of faraway landscapes, elusive or fast-moving animals or famous people right into the artist's studio. Photographs capture detail and color that even the keenest observer may miss. Making a picture of a sitter means that long hours of posing are a thing of the past.

The camera naturally puts scenes into scale and perspective and makes stop-action and close-ups a cinch. Such shots can open up entire new worlds for the artist.

But for the artist, a photograph should only be a means to an end. And a word of warning: Extreme wide-angle and telephoto lenses

are prone to distort.

Recently, I sent a photograph of London's Grand Union Canal to artist Judith Heilbronn-Crown of Modi'in. Heilbronn-Crown, who normally specializes in drawing and painting flowers and plants, accepted my challenge.

She let my picture work as a model, not to be slavishly copied, but rather artistically interpreted. The medium she chose was Caran d'Ache water-soluble crayons, "nice and black, not too smudgy."

With a practiced eye the artist pointed out that the photograph had many of the right elements, but some were in the wrong place. In other words, there was plenty of room to improve the composition. She also said that two elements — the newspaper in the bottom right-hand corner and the black bridge along the top — would be best left out.

Heilbronn-Crown's interpretation tidied up my composition according to the Rule of Thirds, which she defines as "having no important feature exactly in the center of the picture. Rather, the main elements in the picture should move the viewer's eye around and toward the center."

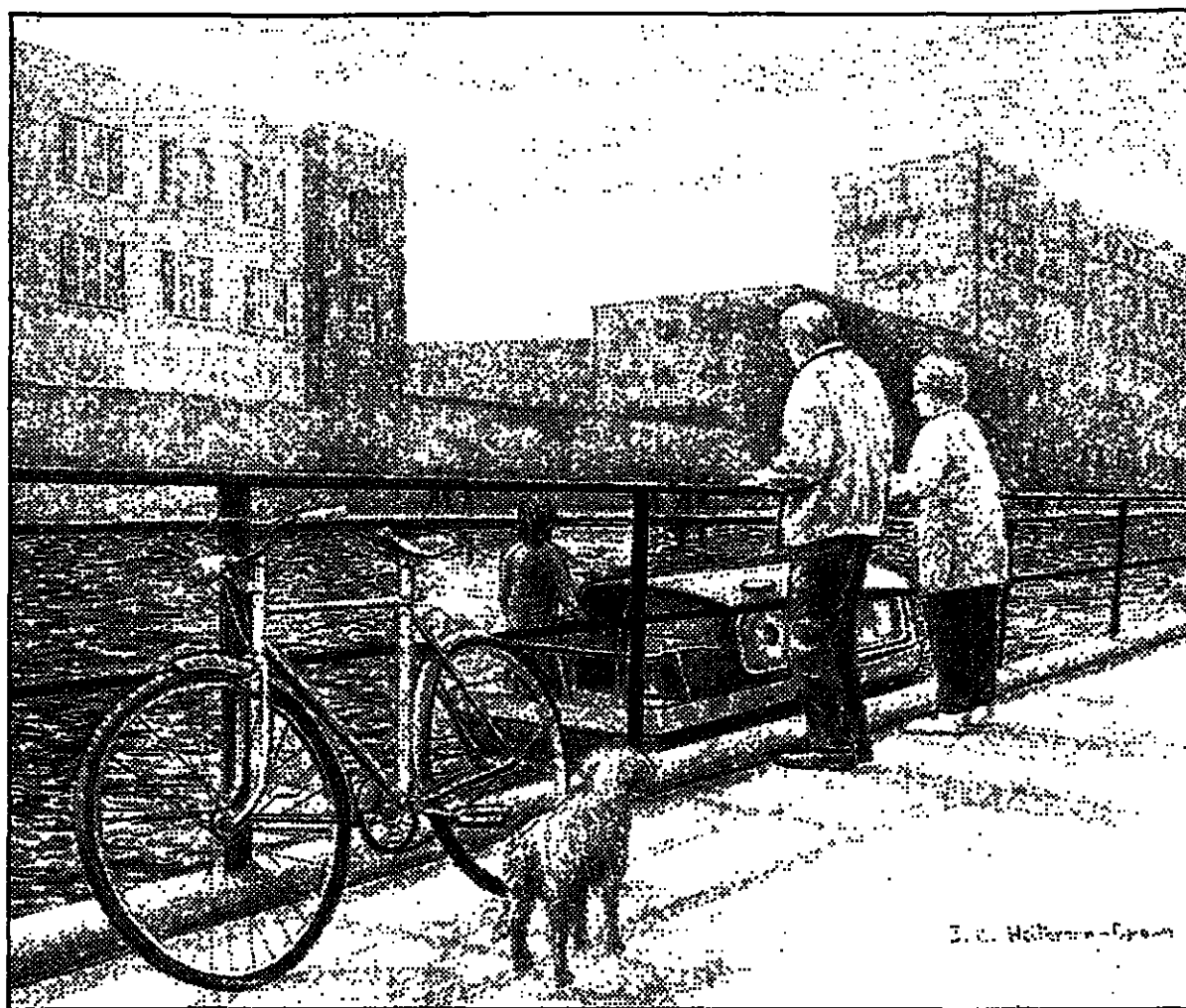
To accomplish this, she moved the dog, which "played no part in the original," and placed the animal in a rear view "so it draws the eye into the picture." She also removed the wooden fence at the right of the photograph and let the rail in her drawing continue into infinity.

The artist introduced many other improvements. She simplified the over-busy rail to give the bicycle more prominence, separated the two people, dark-shading the heads and shoulders to bring out the figures, and lightened the background.

The main change was made to the foreground. There, she inserted a barge taken from another photograph in her own collection.

Heilbronn-Crown says that "ideally, one should do a sketch first and use the photo for reference." She suggests that "the light in a photo does not give the same impression as reality, that colors are different and some of the overall effect is lost, especially in the shadows that appear to be black, but are not. Therefore, take the same photo with several different exposures and choose the best print."

Another practical tip she gives: Always place the photographic print in a plastic sleeve while



A Caran d'Ache crayon drawing from the photograph (Judith Heilbronn-Crown)



Original photograph of London's Grand Union Canal

(David Brauner)

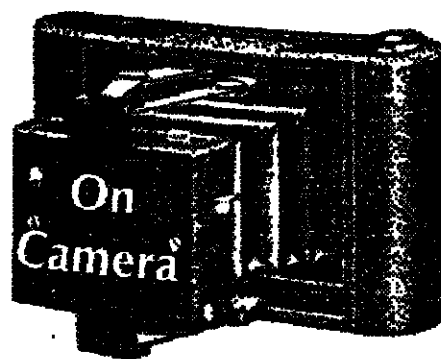
working to keep it clear of paint splashes.

Art can often improve photography. One of the artist's favorite landscapes, which has pride of place in her living room, is an oil painting that she made from a "tiny little snapshot." Heilbronn-Crown took the picture on one of

her last walks with her parents before making aliyah 19 years ago.

"It was a beautiful, sunny day in early spring," she recalls. "In fact, it was so clear that there wasn't a single cloud in the sky, so I added a few clouds to the painting, otherwise the plain blue expanse would have been boring."

Your photography questions and comments are welcome. Contact David Brauner, e-mail: morris@mail.biu.ac.il (writing "for David" in the subject line) or fax 02-563-7792 or c/o Photo Archives, The Jerusalem Post, P.O.B. 81, Jerusalem 91000.



Bridge 'Peanuts' play cards

By MATTHEW GRANOVETTER

West dealer
Both sides chirping

North	East
♠ J 5 3	♠ A 7
♥ A 9 2	♥ K J 8 7 6
♦ J 9 4 2	♦ 8 7
♣ A 9 3	♣ K Q 5 2

South
♠ K Q 8 6
♥ Q 10 4
♦ A K Q 5
♣ 8 6

West	North	East	South
pass	pass	1♥	1NT
pass	3NT	(all pass)	

Opening lead ♥5

Trying to take a break from my daily bridge-writing last week, I picked up the Sunday Comics in *The Jerusalem Post* and there, in the last frame of the *Peanuts* strip, was another bridge hand.

Snoopy goes off to Charlie Brown's grandma's house, leaving his little bird friends with nothing to do — or so Snoopy thinks. In the last two panels, his four little yellow birdies quickly dash back to Snoopy's doghouse for a game of bridge. You might wonder how many readers of Charles Schulz's comic strip understood the meaning of the 52-card diagram in the last panel ("bridge" wasn't actually mentioned).

In the "old days," when bridge was a more popular hobby and newspapers had a daily column instead of once a week (many still do), everyone would have understood the meaning. Back in the 1930s and 1940s there was a famous comic strip dedicated only to bridge. It was drawn by New York cartoonist Harold Tucker Webster, and it was usually just one frame.

For example, one of his strips in a 1940 edition of the *New York Tribune* was entitled "Fulfilling her contract." It showed a concerned woman on the telephone, saying: "Oh, Mazie, I'd love to go, but I'm simply frantic with war work. I have to get to five bridge parties next week for the benefit of the Red Cross! Can you bear it? Really, I'm completely worn out."

If this dreadful war doesn't stop soon I'll be a wreck."

Yes, bridge was serious stuff those days, even during the games played at high tea.

Bridge declined in popularity in the 1970s and '80s, but the "mental sport" may be making a comeback. If the *Peanuts* strip is any indication, here in Israel the game is being taught to youngsters in public school, an indication that the Education Ministry believes the game has merit in developing social and mental skills.

The deal chosen for the *Peanuts* column indicates that Schulz is an avid bridge fan. There was no bidding or play presented, but to the aficionado it contained many interesting points.

I've added a logical bidding sequence to the diagram, with East opening one heart and South overcalling one notrump. Now North raises to three notrump, and this becomes the final contract. West leads the five of hearts.

The normal play is to duck the first trick, but if you play low from dummy, East can win the king and switch effectively to clubs. Now the defenders will have five tricks before the declarer can score nine. These five tricks will be the ace of spades, king of hearts and three club tricks. Therefore, declarer must win the first trick with the ace of hearts and attack spades.

The spade suit itself is a nice suit-combination for discussion. The proper way to play the suit is to lead the 3 or 5 toward the king-queen four.

East plays low on the spade lead and now declarer must be very careful. If he carelessly wins in his hand and leads a low spade back to the jack and ace, he will score only two spade tricks. A club shift will knock out his ace and he'll have only eight winners (before the defenders have five): two spades, one heart, four diamonds and one club.

So declarer, after leading a low spade to his queen, must return to dummy with the jack of diamonds to lead another low spade. East wins this trick by force with his doubleton ace and now declarer has three spade winners, enough for his contract.

The play in the spade suit produces three tricks against any 3-3 split or when the ace is doubleton with East. It's hardly what you'd call a "peanuts" play.

Contact me by e-mail at: Man@Bridgetoday.com or write to The Jerusalem Post.

Chess Knock-out punch

By NIGEL SHORT

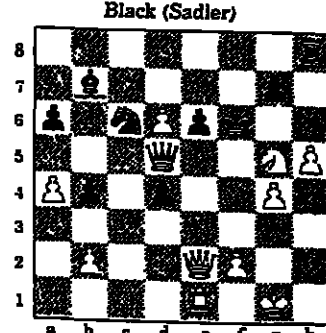
WITH a large slice of luck and a certain amount of skill, I managed to win the 1998 Smith and Williamson British Championship play-off with Matthew Sadler.

At one point I despaired of ever being able to catch him, such was the pace he set. But Matthew was held by the talented Indian Krishnan Sashikiran in round nine and stumbled against Mark Hebden (see below) in a wild encounter in round ten. Miraculously I found myself a point ahead with only one game remaining. However, like the English cricket team, I somehow preferred to make it difficult by losing (to Tony Miles) at this critical juncture, allowing Matthew to catch me.

The play-off games were truly awful but in the end I landed the knock-out punch shortly before lapsing into a coma. It gave me the title for the third time in my last three appearances — 1984, 1987 and 1998.

White: Hebden
Black: Sadler
British Champ. 1998

1. d4 d5 2. c4 dxc4 Sadler is, perhaps, the world's greatest expert on the Queen's Gambit Accepted. I believe that he is currently writing a book on this opening which should be excellent, if his previous works are anything to go by. 3. Nf3 Nf6 4. e3 e5 5. Bxc4 c5 6. 0-0 a6 7. e4? Sharp, aggressive and currently very trendy. 7...b5 7...Nxe4 8. d5 is the idea, but that is another story. 8. Bb3 Bb7 9. Re1 cxd4 10. e4 b4 A small concession. 11. e5 Nfd7 12. Bg5 Be7 13. Bxe7 Qxe7 14. Nbd2 Nc6 15. Re1 0-0 16. h4 It is a question of taste but I do not like the Black position that much. On the positive side though he is a pawn ahead and the tension will be released should White seek to regain it. 16...Rfd8 17. Qe2? 17.Nb3 is worth a thought but Hebden decides to go all out. 17...Ne5 18. Bxb7 18...Kxb7 19. Ng5+ Kb6 The only move. 19...Kg6? 20. Qh5 Qe8 21. Rxc5 is catastrophic. 20. Rxc5 Qxc5 21. Nxf7+ Kg6 22. Nd6? Mark had a huge think here which was a



White (Hebden) to play

28. Qd2! Disdaining the draw that was to be had by checking again on e4. 28...e5 29. Ne4+ 29. Re3! g6 (29...Nd8 30. Rf3+ Qd3 31. Nxf3 Bxf3 32. Qd3) 30. Rf3+ Ke7 31. Rf7+ Qxf7 32. Nxf7 Ke7 33. Qg5 was terribly dangerous. Furthermore it was possible to play safely by advancing the f-pawn: 29. f4 e4 30. Ne4+ Kf7 31. Ng5+ Kb6 32. Ne6+ Kg6 33. Ng5. 29...Kf7 30. Qg5 Bc8! Defending resiliently. 31. Qg6+ 31. f4! Qe6 32. f5 Qd7 33. Re1 posed all sorts of problems, but both sides were running very short of time. 31...Kf8 32. Ng5 Bxg5 33. Re1 Rxb5 Another nice move. White is dead lost but Sadler still has to make the time control on move 40. 34. f3 e4 35. Nh7+ Rxb7 36. fxe4 Qe7? A hideous blunder. Black would win simply after 36...Qh5 37. Rf1+ Kg6 when there are no more (relevant) checks. 37. Rf1+ Black resigned. Suddenly he is mated after 37...Kg8 38. Qf7+ Kh8 39. Qg8.

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Winning designs

Flair By Greer Fay Cashman

the coveted title of The Most Promising Young Designer.

This is the third consecutive year in which Israel has participated in this particular competition, and for the past two years Shenkar graduates ranked first among the prize winners.

Vivi Balish, who today works for Italian designer Roberto Cavalli, set the pace two years ago, and was followed last year by Daganit Hollinger and Nili Salomon, who are currently part of Castro's design team.

The Mittelmoda competition gives young designers from around the world a chance to impress the internationally acclaimed designers who make up the panel of judges.

For the contestants, this and similar competitions provide a gateway from design school into the real world of fashion. Many are snapped up by established fashion houses whose headhunters

are always on the lookout for fresh, new talent.

Even those who don't win prizes or jobs abroad have the opportunity to mingle with their peers from other countries and to exchange ideas that may prove lucrative when they return home. It is particularly beneficial for young designers from the West to meet their Eastern counterparts, and vice versa.

Over 350 designs were submitted to the contest by students from 52 fashion schools in 38 countries, including major fashion producers like Italy, France, England, Germany, Spain and the US.

The contest received good media coverage, which may eventually aid the professional advancement of all those who took part.

Each of the graduates submitted five designs from their graduation collections. Yachimovich and Dekel-Shnir, inspired by



From Kobi Halperin's collection 'Incarnation' (Sivan Farag)



Natalie O. Sherman won The Most Promising Young Designer award for 'Earth' (Ido Lavie)



From Yachimovich and Dekel-Shnir's collection entitled 'If I was a doll' (Sivan Farag)

foam, sponge and porcelain dolls from the end of the 19th century, put together a collection entitled "If I was a doll." Halperin, using new print and texture techniques called his collection "Incarnation," and Sherman's "Earth" collection focused on fabric development, skins and chiffons.

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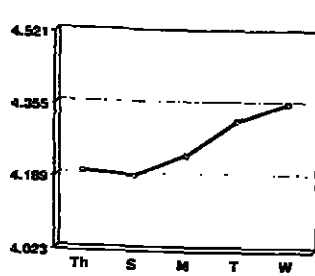
Thursday,
October 22, 1998

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MARKETS

in brief

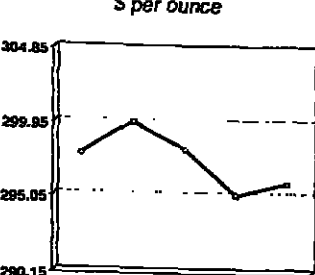
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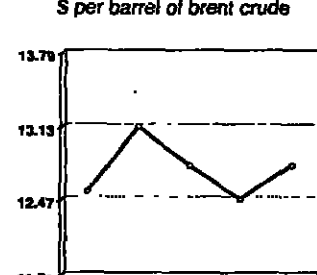
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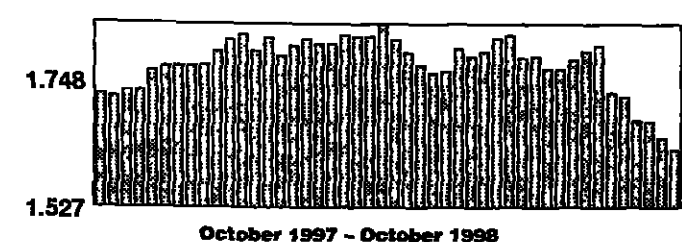
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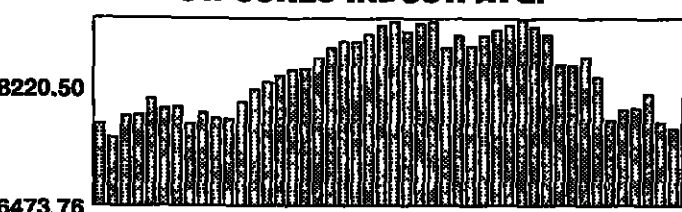
OIL



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DOW JONES INDUST. AVG.



Tadiran Telecom workers declare dispute

Tadiran Telecommunications workers announced a work dispute yesterday. The workers argued that merger talks between the company and ECI Telecom were held without consulting them. The management and workers have agreed, however, to refrain from any unilateral steps for the next three days. Tadiran and ECI agreed last month to a merger that will create Israel's largest telecommunications company, and workers fear that following the establishment of the merged company, many employees will lose their jobs.

Dan Gerstenfeld

Apartment purchase tax updated

Property purchase tax brackets are being updated 2.89 percent this month, according to the Income Tax and Land Taxes Department of the Treasury.

This means brackets will be imposed from a higher starting point. With the update, purchase tax is set at 0.5% on the first NIS 440,970, rather than NIS 428,570. From NIS 440,970 to NIS 684,420, the rate rises to 3.5%, and to 4.5% above that bracket.

New immigrants now pay 0.5% on the first NIS 1,003,965, while above that sum, the payment increases to 4.5%. These rates are effective until January 15 next year. David Zev Harris

Flour prices raised 7.22%

Flour prices increase today by 7.22 percent, as a result of the depreciation of the shekel against the dollar, according to the Industry and Trade Ministry.

Finance Minister Yaakov Neeman and Industry and Trade Minister Natan Sharansky signed the decree, which allows for the price rise, on the day cigarette prices rose 11%, also the result of the depreciation of the currency.

As a result of the increase, 1kg packaged white flour will cost NIS 1.75 in the shops, while semolina will be priced at NIS 1.80.

Bread prices should not be affected by the increase, according to economic planners in the Industry and Trade Ministry. David Zev Harris

Discount Bank work dispute ends

New wage agreement gives employees 4.5% pay raise

By DAN GERSTENFELD

The management and workers committee of Israel Discount Bank announced yesterday that they have reached a wage agreement, bringing an end to a long and bitter dispute.

The terms of the agreement hint that Discount chairman Arie Mientkavich realized he wouldn't be able to make any progress without striking a deal with the workers union, which is considered the most militant in the entire banking sector. According to the agreement, the workers

will receive a 4.5 percent salary increase and receive assurances that their salary would maintain its current value.

The one-year agreement will be renewed automatically unless one of the parties decides to cancel it.

The workers committee has agreed to the management's wish to appoint 25 senior workers on personal contracts, while the management managed to abolish the procedure by which the workers committee was involved in the appointments of senior executives. Now senior personnel will be appointed through a special committee

headed by the bank's general manager.

The workers also have agreed to forgo six days of their annual holiday entitlements in an attempt to help cut costs.

The management has agreed to the workers' demand that the contract period of temporary workers be extended from two years to five.

The agreement does not address the explosive issue of layoffs.

Disputes between management and workers have disrupted business at Israel's third-largest bank repeatedly since Mientkavich's appointment as chairman of

Discount's board.

The dispute reached its peak last July when the management staged a four-day lockout. Following that measure, both sides have agreed in court to a cooling-off period. At that time, both parties agreed to continue negotiating without taking any unilateral steps.

Ricky Bechar, head of Discount's workers committee, said that the agreement marks the beginning of a new era in the bank and that the workers will assist the management in improving the bank's situation.

Sharansky: Investment aid slash process to be halted

By DAVID ZEV HARRIS

Capital-investment aid to the highest priority areas will be frozen next year at 24 percent, despite the government's commitment from last year to slash the aid to 22 percent next year and 20% in 2000, Industry and Trade Minister Natan Sharansky said yesterday.

Sharansky explained that in light of the economic slowdown, he will refuse to further shrink capital-investment aid, as stipulated in the 1998 Budgetary Arrangements Law.

"The state of the economy does not allow for a deterioration in conditions for the business sector," said Sharansky.

Since 1995, the government has cut the aid available from 38% to its present level.

The Treasury's state budget department said last night that "this subject did not arise during the [cabinet] debate of the budget and does not appear in the [1999] budget [proposals] and therefore will be discussed between the ministries."

Given the ongoing depreciation of the shekel against the dollar, Histadrut Institute of Social and Economic Research director Leah Achdut said yesterday that prices are bound to adjust in line with the shekel-dollar rate and that means further price rises in the coming weeks.

"The problem in predicting is that things are still very fluid and rather than predicting on a daily basis, we should wait until the month's end to get a better idea," said Achdut.

Histadrut economists believe inflation will end the year at 8% or a little higher. This estimate assumes the dollar will drop to NIS 4.1-4.2 for the remainder of the year. Achdut believes the consumer price index will show a 3% rise in October, 0.7-0.8% in November and 0.4-0.5% in December.

Meanwhile, Sharansky's Yisrael Ba'Aliya colleague and Immigration and Absorption Minister Yuli Edelstein yesterday called on Neeman and Bank of Israel Governor Jacob Frenkel to "stop holding hands" and intervene in currency trading to prevent the shekel sliding further.



Thumbs up for Caspian oil

The US is determined to see Caspian Sea oil transported through Turkey and will pursue its effort to make the 1,730-kilometer Baku-Ceyhan pipeline a reality, Undersecretary of State Stuart Eizenstat (left) said at a news conference in Ankara yesterday with Turkish Undersecretary of State for Foreign Trade Yavuz Ege.

(AP)

Burger King-Burger Ranch merger canceled

By DAN GERSTENFELD

The planned merger between Burger King and Burger Ranch was canceled yesterday only one month after the two companies announced the creation of what would have been the nation's largest fast-food company, valued at some \$30 million-\$40m.

Sources close to the companies said the talks had reached a deadlock after too many differences surfaced between the prospective partners.

"It simply didn't work out," one source said. "The strategy didn't fit, the mentality didn't fit, it wasn't going to work."

In a statement issued by Burger Ranch, the

two companies expressed disappointment that the agreement didn't materialize despite their joint efforts.

Under the terms of the original agreement, Burger King - which is controlled by businessmen Meshulam Riklis and Yair Hason - would have owned 50 percent of the merged company, while Burger Ranch - which is owned by Paz Oil Co. and businessman Ron Lapid - would have controlled the remaining 50%.

The companies, each catering to a different clientele, were expected to continue to operate separately, while combining some of their activities.

Burger Ranch is the country's largest hamburger chain, with annual sales of some NIS

200m. last year. The company employs 2,500 and operates 74 restaurants, of which 67 are owned by franchisees. Paz purchased 74% of Burger Ranch last year and plans to open outlets in its gas stations.

Burger King, which is represented in Israel by Rikamor, started operating here in 1994. The second-largest hamburger chain in the US owns 42 restaurants and has sales of NIS 104m.

The companies' main rival is global fast-food leader McDonald's, whose local annual sales total NIS 150m-NIS 170m, according to industry sources.

The sources believe that McDonald's will now try to take over some Burger Ranch outlets by persuading franchisees to join the chain.

US Congress ratifies aid cut

By DAVID ZEV HARRIS

The US Congress yesterday ratified a plan to phase out civilian aid to Israel over the next 10 years. The idea was first proposed by Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu.

Starting next year, the aid will be reduced from its present \$1.2 billion by \$120 million each year. At the same time, military aid will increase from \$1.8b. by \$60m.

Finance Minister Yaakov Neeman obtained US permission for 25 percent of the annual addition to the defense aid to be converted into shekels and therefore freed up for defense

procurement here. This issue was a major bone of contention, as the US wanted the additional funds to be spent in the US, giving a boost to American defense companies.

In May, House foreign operations subcommittee chairman Sonny Calahan said none of the additional aid would be spent in Israel.

Throughout the discussions, both sides agreed the talks had no connection to the peace process, but were an expression of Israel's desire to achieve economic independence.

In July 1996, Netanyahu announced during a visit to the US that Israel wanted to cut its

US aid.

"There can be no greater tribute to America's long-standing economic aid to Israel than for us to be able to say: We are going to achieve economic independence," he told Congress. "I am convinced that our economic policies will lay the foundation for total self-reliance and great economic strength."

At the time a former Israeli diplomat said his statement preempted such a move being initiated by Congress. In recent years, more and more American politicians have suggested Israel is receiving too large a percentage of all US aid.

Skoda sheds communist stigma

By MATTHEW LYNN

LONDON - In Europe, Czech-built Skoda cars have long inspired jokes. For example: What do you call a convertible Skoda? A Dumpster.

Why are the rear windows in a Skoda heated? So your hands don't get cold when you're pushing it.

Now the laugh may be on Skoda's better-known competitors.

Sales figures indicate that the cars many saw as akin to sewing machines on wheels have posted the most dramatic success in the European car industry.

In the first nine months this year, Skoda sales in western Europe rose by 42 percent, making it one of the fastest-growing cars on the continent.

Skoda's total sales in the affluent half of the continent amount to 126,891 cars, still only a 1.1% market share - but twice that of such well-regarded rivals as Sweden's Saab. And Skoda is starting to close on the likes of Japanese giants Honda and Mazda.

Behind Skoda's transformation lies a tale of how the balance of industrial power in the new European economy is subtly shifting, as former Communist nations in eastern Europe turn into stronger market-driven economies.

jokes, part of a ritual humiliation visited on the Czechs under communism. In truth, the company dates its history to the early days of the European car industry. Before World War II, Skoda was a name to be reckoned with alongside the likes of Fiat in Italy, Renault in France and Austin in Britain.

After the war, as a state-owned manufacturer, Skoda turned out dismal, noisy cars that could only look cool when next to a Russian Lada. Some cars were dumped on European markets at rock-bottom prices - a Skoda's price was about half that of a Ford - in the Eastern bloc's continuing effort to earn hard currency.

The poor quality of the cars was attributed mostly to the repressive

Volkswagen AG took a controlling 70% stake in 1991 (the other 30% is still owned by the Czech government), Skoda has been turned upside down. Between 1991 and 1997, Volkswagen pumped DM 2.1 billion (\$1.28 billion) into Skoda. Factories were retooled and new car lines were designed. Another DM 2.4 billion will be spent over the next four years.

Skoda's small car, the Felicia, has established a market niche. Europe's auto press also gave a warm reception last year to Skoda's new Octavia family sedan, whose early sales have largely accounted for the sudden jump in Skoda's market-share. It is now the largest auto-maker in eastern Europe, having narrowly overtaken Fiat's Polish unit.

have, among other effects, mauled the Czech Koruna and dented the local economy. Skoda's domestic sales have fallen by 16% and its sales in central and eastern Europe are up only 2% this year.

Even so, Skoda is starting to produce meaningful returns for VW's ambitious chief executive Ferdinand Piech this year from the Czech subsidiary. As the Czech Republic's largest company and largest exporter, Skoda has largely salvaged Prague's balance of payments.

Even more interesting are some other implications of its success. One consequence has been to re-order the agenda set by Europe's auto establishment over the past 30 years. (Bloomberg)

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Dollar rises nearly 1% to NIS 4.355

By DAN GERSTENFELD
and news agencies

The shekel declined yesterday against the dollar for the third consecutive day. The shekel fell 0.9 percent against the dollar, which was fixed at NIS 4.355.

After the setting of the representative rate the shekel continued to depreciate and the dollar was traded in the unofficial interbank trading at NIS 4.38.

Since the beginning of the week the shekel has lost 3.8 percent against the dollar despite previous expectations that it will stabilize at less than NIS 4.3 per dollar.

Dealers attributed yesterday's decline to companies who converted shekels into dollars to repay foreign currency linked loans. They added that trading was very volatile and was affected

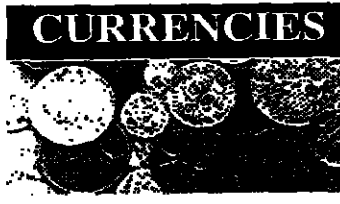
by reports that the Finance Ministry intends to tax certain saving plans.

Meanwhile, the dollar rose against the mark after Bundesbank council member Hans-Juergen Krupp suggested short-term interest rates among countries adopting the euro should fall below 3.30 percent.

The dollar rose as high to 1.6495 marks from 1.6406 late Monday in New York. It was at 116.30 yen, little changed from 116.19 yen.

Krupp's comments to be published in today's German weekly *Wirtschaftswochen* led to "speculation about rate cuts in Germany," said Ivar Bjornstad, treasurer in charge of foreign exchange at Den norske Bank.

A spokesman at the Bundesbank's regional branch in



Dollar 4.355 ▲ 0.9%
Basket 4.798 ▲ 0.69%
Mark 2.6441 no change
Sterling 7.4161 ▲ 0.54%

Hamburg, where Krupp is president, said the remarks were misinterpreted and that Krupp wasn't calling for a cut in German rates before the euro gets underway on January 1. While future monetary

policy is up to the European Central Bank, euro rates could afford to be lower, Krupp said, according to the spokesman.

"Rate policy is now at a European level and that is how it should be decided," the spokesman said, though he confirmed Krupp said economic conditions in Germany favor lower borrowing costs.

"In Germany, real interest rates are still relatively high," Krupp told *Wirtschaftswochen*.

Some traders, though, say a German rate cut is unlikely.

"My experience with the Bundesbank is that they tend to be extremely cautious about these things," said Bjornstad.

Germany's benchmark securities repurchase rate is 3.30 percent, among the lowest of the 11 nations joining the single currency.

cy, or euro. Bundesbank policy-makers next meet today to discuss monetary policy.

Krupp "is the most dovish of the central council" so his comments should be read in that light, said David Gilmore, a partner at Foreign Exchange Analytics in Essex, Connecticut.

Earlier, ECB Executive Board Member Eugenio Domingo Solans said the benchmark lending rate for economic and monetary union should be set at 3.30 percent, although he also said that rate may not be appropriate for long.

The influential Ifo economic research institute said yesterday that Western German business confidence fell more than expected in September to its lowest since March 1997, amid concern about a slowing economy.

TASE falls as shekel weakens further

Tel Aviv

Stocks fell yesterday, led by Bank Leumi, as the shekel slid to another all-time low against the dollar and prospects dimmed for a breakthrough in Middle East peace talks in the US.

The Maof Index of the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange's 25 largest companies dropped 0.89 percent to 274.05.

Leumi, Israel's second-largest bank by value, lost 3.99 percent to close at NIS 5.30, while Bank Hapoalim dropped 3.57 percent to 7.56.

The shekel fell for a second day to a new low of 4.355 against the dollar on concern that the government may tax interest on government bonds and shekel savings plans.

"It was shekel-related more than anything," said Eli Nahum, head trader at Nesuah Zannex Securities Ltd. "The banks have a lot of exposure with foreign-currency denominated loans and there could be a lot of defaults."

The Bank of Israel set its representative shekel-dollar rate at 4.355, 0.9 percent weaker than yesterday's 4.316 rate.

The shekel has lost 3.8 percent against the dollar in the last three days, for a total of 11.7 percent against the dollar this month.

Finance Minister Yaakov Neeman said Tuesday he hopes to implement a new tax system in Israel by January 1 that would reduce personal income taxes, fueling speculation that tax

reforms will include a capital gains tax, which would make shekel savings plans and debt instruments less attractive, analysts said.

Bank Leumi and Bank Hapoalim led declines as they face the risk of defaults by borrowers of dollar-denominated loans, which are now more expensive to pay back because of the shekel's decline.

Europe

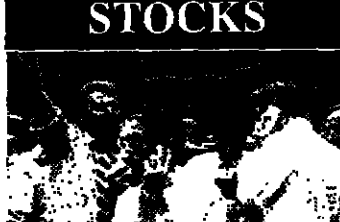
UK stocks fell, led by Tesco Plc. and other retailers after government figures showing September retail sales growth slowed more than expected.

"I still think we're going to have a recession," said Mark Tyndall, a partner at Apex Partners & Co. Asset Management, which has about £300 million invested in UK equities. "It's a very difficult market for retail."

The FTSE 100 Index fell 45.3 points, or 0.9 percent, to 5209.4, its second decline this week. About two stocks fell for every one that gained, with the 0.86 percent decline led by retailers.

Oil stocks also fell, after Exxon Corp., the biggest US oil company, reported slowing profit. Earlier gains were reversed after US stocks fell.

Among retailers, Tesco slid 13.5 pence to 159, Sainsbury Plc. dropped 27.5p to 551.5 and Marks & Spencer Plc. shed 10p to 429.5 after September sales at stores and supermarkets fell 0.4 percent, beating the 0.3 percent decline forecast by economists, as sales of clothing and at department stores declined.



Maof 274.05 ▼ 0.89%
Dow Jones 8519 ▲ 0.1%
FTSE 5209.4 ▼ 0.9%
Nikkei 14216.33 ▲ 2.96%

omists, as sales of clothing and at department stores declined.

Oil companies dropped after Exxon said third-quarter earnings dropped an expected 23 percent as crude oil prices averaged almost a third lower than a year ago and profit margins on gasoline and chemical sales fell.

British Petroleum Plc. dropped 17.5p to 81.5 and Shell Transport & Trading Co. lost 3.25p to 352.75.

Asia

Japan's key stock index rose above 14,000 for the first time in almost a month, leading gains in Singapore and Taiwan, after Industrial Bank of Japan Ltd. became the first lender to say it will apply for public funds under a government bailout plan.

Oil soars 4% on inventories drop

Energy

Crude oil jumped 4 percent and heating oil also gained, as the third weekly drop in US distillate fuel inventories signaled an early start to the home heating season.

Inventories of heating oil and other distillate fuels now are 8.1 percent higher than they were a year ago, according to the American Petroleum Institute, down from an 11 percent gap three weeks ago. Demand for heating oil is the highest it's been since March, according to figures derived from the API report, as cold weather returns to the Northern Hemisphere.

"The distillate supply overhang is down to 10 million barrels

above last year compared to a more than 24 million barrel we had in August, which should help heating oil," said Michael Fitzpatrick, a trader at Fimat USA Inc. in New York.

December crude oil rose as much as 55 cents, or 4.1 percent, to \$14.07 a barrel on the New York Mercantile Exchange. Heating oil for November delivery rose as much as 1.25 cents, or 3.3 percent, to 39.00 cents a gallon.

In London, December Brent crude rose as much as 52 cents, or 4.2 percent, to \$12.83 a barrel on the International Petroleum Exchange.

Gains could be limited by a report from the US Department of Energy that said crude oil inventories rose by 3.5 million barrels, or



Gold \$295.85 ▼ 0.4%
Crude Oil \$12.78 ▲ 0.42%
CRR 203.51 ▲ 0.56%

1.1 percent, to 332.5 million barrels last week. The DOE report was in line with the average estimate of nine analysts surveyed by Bloomberg, who had predicted a 2.34 million barrel rise. The API reported that

crude stocks were little changed. The DOE estimate "takes a little bit of the bloom off the rose" for higher crude oil prices, Fitzpatrick said.

Gasoline for November delivery was little changed at 43.35 a barrel on the Nymex, up 0.4 cent. The API reported that gasoline inventories were little changed at 199.3 million barrels, down 384,000 barrels, or 0.2 percent.

Precious metals

Gold slipped lower in quiet range-bound European trade on Tuesday as the dollar firmed against the Japanese yen, dealers said.

Dealers said gold was sold off

on COMEX after slipping gradually lower in London trading earlier in the day.

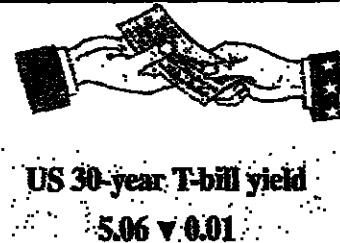
Gold was last quoted at \$295.00/\$295.50 an ounce against the previous New York close at \$296.00/\$296.50 after being fixed lower in London in the afternoon at \$295.25 from the morning fix at \$296.90.

"We are back in a very dull and disinterested range, looking for inspiration," one dealer said.

Dealers said gold moved lower on a stronger dollar against the yen - long watched as a barometer for Asian gold demand. "Gold was definitely influenced by what is happening in the yen and as the yen moves up, gold moves down," another dealer said. (Bloomberg)

US bonds stable after yields' decline

BONDS



US 30-year T-bill yield 5.06 ▼ 0.01

of risky securities by loss-ridden hedge funds, as well as speculation the economy might tip into recession next year, added to demand for Treasury debt.

"Investors are now saying that maybe the economy isn't in such bad shape," said Horner. "That means that rates won't have to fall as much as people thought."

Not all analysts are confident that the worst is over for world financial markets and say that bonds may continue to rally.

"Stability in equity markets has removed some of the safe-haven bid from bonds, but looking ahead the fundamentals are still bond-positive," said Danyelle Guyart, a fixed-income analyst at Deutsche Bank in London. "Economies are slowing around the world and there's no sign of inflation."

Slow inflation is good news for

bond investors because the value of a bond's fixed payments are eroded at a slower pace.

Some investors said the prospect for lower interest rates in coming months means notes maturing in five-years and less will outpace gains in longer-maturity bonds. That means the yield curve will steepen, as short yields fall more than long yields.

SPORTS

in brief

Groin injury sidelines Revivo for three weeks

VIGO, Spain (Reuters) - Celta Vigo's Israeli international Haim Revivo will be out of action for at least three weeks, club officials said yesterday.

Revivo suffered a groin injury before the UEFA Cup match against Aston Villa on Tuesday, won 1-0 by Villa. He started the match but was replaced at halftime. He is undergoing an operation in Jerusalem.

O'Neill stays at Leicester; Leeds look to O'Leary

LEICESTER (Reuters) - Martin O'Neill yesterday ended weeks of speculation about his future as manager of Leicester City by confirming he would be staying at the English premier league club.

O'Neill's decision to stay had been expected after Leeds chairman Peter Ridsdale said earlier yesterday that he had not talked to the Leicester coach and would look elsewhere for a new manager. Ridsdale told BBC radio Leeds would be making an announcement in the next 24 hours about its new manager. The club are now expected to turn to caretaker manager David O'Leary.

Alleged knife-throwing incident being probed

WARSAW (AP) - The Polish club Wisla Krakow moved yesterday on reports that Parma player Dino Baggio was injured by a knife thrown from the stands with UEFA promising to deal with the incident.

Baggio was struck in the 80th minute of Tuesday's UEFA Cup second-round match - a 1-1 draw at Wisla - by an object that Italian reports initially identified as a flick knife.

However, Poland's largest circulation newspaper *Wyborcza Gaceta* said two Wisla players suggested that Baggio was hit with some "small metal object" - but said it wasn't a knife.

HAIFA

Continued from Page 20

Head Coach Dusan Ohirin has said he would be happy with a draw, preferably with goals, but he didn't hide his hope of returning from Austria with a win.

The former Czech Republic coach will have only three players sitting on the bench, and may even opt to use second-string keeper Yehuda Buzon as a field player if necessary.

Ried, the Austrian cup holders, who knocked out MTK Budapest in

the previous round currently lie one place from bottom in the 10-team Austrian first division. They lost 4-0 to second-placed Sturm Graz last Saturday.

The small side which surprised Austria by clinching winning the cup last season have managed only four wins in their last 20 outings. They were forced to change the venue for tonight's match to nearby Linz as their 11,000 capacity stadium failed to satisfy UEFA officials who were prepared to allow only 1,500 spectators in for the match. The Linz venue can seat 15,000.

National men's tennis seeds toppled

By HEATHER CHAIT

The two top men seeds at this year's national closed tennis championships in Jerusalem were both upset yesterday.

No. 1 Lior Mor, 216 in the ATP Tour rankings, started off powerfully but went down in three sets to Yoni Erlich (388), 6-7, 6-3, 6-4.

Nir Welgreen (289), seeded second, fell to Andy Ram (512), also in three sets, 2-6, 6-4, 6-2.

Fifth seed Noam Okkun now becomes the highest seed remaining in the tournament after he beat Raviv Weidenfeld 6-3, 6-3. The other player to reach today's semi-final is Michael Kogan who overcame sixth seed Kobi Ziv 6-4, 6-4.

Rangers edge Oilers for first win

NEW YORK (AP) - Mathieu Schneider's power-play goal 8:38 into the third period gave New York a 3-2 victory over the Edmonton Oilers Tuesday night as the Rangers avoided matching their worst start in 40 years.

Schneider's tiebreaking goal helped the Rangers stop a five-game winless streak (0-4-1), one shy of their 1958-59 National Hockey League season.

Manny Malhotra and Brian Leetch also scored for the Rangers.

The Oilers got goals from Bill Guerin and Josef Beranek.

Hurricanes 3, Canucks 1

In Greensboro, North Carolina, Keith Primeau scored his third goal in four games and Arturs Irbes beat

Kogan will play Erlich today with Okkun meeting Ram.

Among the women the results were far more in tune with the seedings as the top four players all reached today's last four.

Anna Smashnova (46) beat Anat Alazari 6-1, 6-4 to meet Nataly Cahana (248). Cahana's victim was Heli Bar-Gil.

Hila Rosen and Tzippi Obziler, second and third seeds respectively, will contest the other match after Rosen beat Sasha Edelstein 6-1, 6-0 and Obziler beat Jacqueline Rosen 6-3, 6-2.

The men and women's semi-final matches will begin today at 1 p.m. at the Israel Tennis Center in Jerusalem.

Fliers 3, Sharks 1

In Philadelphia, Eric Lindros and Rod Brind'Amour each had a goal and an assist as unbeaten Philadelphia defeated the winless San Jose Sharks.

Stars 3, Flames 1

In Dallas, Darryl Sydor had two goals and an assist to power Dallas to victory, keeping the Stars unbeaten at home (3-0-0).

Sydor has at least one point in each of Dallas' first five games, matching the longest scoring streak of his career. He had a five-game streak for the Los Angeles Kings in 1993-94.

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
Philadelphia	4	0	1	9	14	5
Pittsburgh	2	0	1	5	10	7
N.Y. Islanders	2	2	0	4	6	7
N.Y. Rangers	1	4	1	3	10	19
New Jersey	1	3	0	2	6	10

Northeast Division

	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
Toronto	3	1	1	7	15	12
Boston	3	2	1	7	14	8
Ottawa	3	0	0	6	11	3
Buffalo	2	1	1	5	10	9
Montreal	2	2	1	5	14	9

Southeast Division

	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
Florida	2	1	1	5	7	3
Washington	2	1	1	5	9	6
Carolina	1	1	3	5	12	11
Tampa Bay	0	4	1	1	8	19

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Central Division

	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
Detroit	3	1	0	6	10	5
Chicago	3	2	0	6	12	13
Nashville	1	2	1	3	8	8
St. Louis	1	2	1	3	8	10

Northwest Division

	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
Vancouver	2	2	0	4	10	10
Edmonton	2	3	0	4	13	11
Calgary	1	3	1	3	12	18
Colorado	0	4	1	1	10	20

Pacific Division

	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
Los Angeles	2	1	1	5	11	11
Phoenix	2	1	0	4	9	7
Anaheim	1	3	0	2	6	9
San Jose	0	3	1	1	7	14

Maccabi looks to Katash for EuroLeague turnaround

By ARYEH DEAN COHEN

Does the return of Oded Katash to Maccabi Tel Aviv's EuroLeague line-up mere there's light at the end of the tunnel for Maccabi Tel Aviv, or is that just an oncoming train?

Tonight's home game against Cibona Zagreb (live on channel 1 at 20:30) should go a long way towards determining whether there's any hope at all left for Maccabi in European competition this season, and whether Katash is the answer to their problems.

So far, Maccabi's been the doormat of Europe, its 0-3 record richly deserved. Foreign players Willie Anderson and Victor Alexander have provided little, but shooting guard Nikolai Loncar has provided even less. While Maccabi has played well in spurts on defense, their offense has been horrid.

So has Cibona's, with the club averaging just over

60 points a game and a . Cibona is also playing tonight with a new coach after Alexander Petrovich quit. Looking at the Cibona statistics, it's easy to understand why. Only foreigner Kenny Atkins, who played with the Orlando Magic, is averaging over 10 points a game, which gives you some indication of just how offensively starved Cibona is.

Katash, who will be with Maccabi until the NBA lockout ends, showed a glimmer of his own form Sunday night vs. Maccabi Ramat Gan when he scored 22 points in coach Yoram Harush's victory. But he also missed foul shots and looked a bit rusty, so just how he'll fare tonight is anyone's guess.

He can't be anything but a plus for Maccabi, however, who have lacked a go-to guy in the important European minutes. Another home loss would almost certainly seal Maccabi's European fate. Maccabi fans are hoping Katash can ride to the team's rescue and get them back on the winning road in Europe as well.

Brosius should get Series MVP nod

SAN DIEGO - The mystery's over, just like the World Series.

The '98 New York Yankees have their Reggie, their Buckey, their Leyritz. Their Series Hero. He arrived Tuesday night, in a game that threatened to get away, and supplied the signature moment that will highlight this team's run in the Series.

Scott Brosius blasted two homers, and now we can reach vital conclusions about this Series. His two-run shot won.

By becoming an unlikely hero, Brosius merely extended his magical year and made it more remarkable. He helped the Yankees rally from a late and scary three-run deficit. He gave life to a team that couldn't figure out San Diego Padres starter Sterling Hitchcock.

What Brosius did was put the Series out of reach, because no one returns from a 3-0 deficit, least of all against this team. More important, Brosius gave his cancer-stricken father, Maury, an excuse to smile for the umpteenth

time since his son became a Yankee.

Along with Orlando Hernandez, Brosius has been the Yankees' most unexpected surprise, the big bonus they hardly thought they were getting when scout Ron Brand sold a skeptical club on an Oakland third baseman who hit .203 last season.

"We didn't know what Scott Brosius was all about," Manager Joe Torre said Tuesday.

Here's what he's about: He's hitting .538 in the Series and is coming off big moments in the Division Series against the Texas Rangers and the ALCS against the Cleveland Indians. He's merely continuing a career season in which he played in the All-Star Game and batted .300 with 19 homers and 98 RBI from the No. 8 and 9 positions.

That's all.

"In spring training, we saw how special a player he was," Torre said. "He could hit home runs. He's a very underrated defensive player. He plays third base lights out."

A year ago this time, Brosius was home, stung over a bad season, wondering what his future held. It wasn't in Oakland, where the A's were ready to rebuild with younger players.

"It was just a year where, if anything could go wrong, it did," Brosius said. "It snowballed, and I was never able to come out of it."

The A's gladly agreed to take Kenny Rogers off the Yankees' hands. All the Yankees wanted from Brosius was stability, something they weren't getting from Charlie Hayes.

Brosius became the most productive No. 8 or 9 hitter in the majors this year. He gave the Yankees true depth in the batting order, and was more than efficient with the glove. He was willing, and able, to compensate on those occasions when the more celebrated Yankees couldn't find their stroke.

"He's such a force on this club," Torre said. "Guys look up to him. He adjusts to situations. He's gotten so many big hits for us."

(Newsday)

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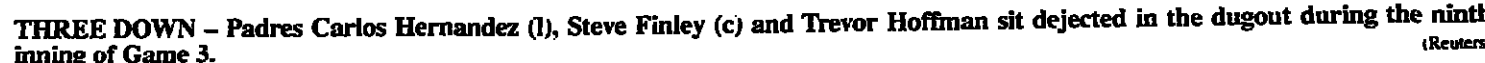
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By OFER RONEN-ABELS

See HAIFA, Page 18

Brosius's hot hot. Page 18

"Sure, it's tough taking this. It's the hard part of the game," Padres manager Bruce Bochy said. "The



Sweeney by striking out Andy Sheets with runners at the corners for the last out.

Bochy made an early call to the bullpen.

It was Trevor Time, and Hoffman

in right. Tino Martinez followed with a walk and then Brosius, moved up to sixth in the batting

me a fastball that I fouled off. Later, he came back with another one that I stayed back on and hit it."

Caminiti gave it back in the seventh, though, when his error at third base gave the Yankees a run.

Sunday-San Diego at New York if necessary

by MARK FIVLIN

denial of both parties the judge adjourned the 10-hour hearing just after midnight stating that her judgement would be given on Nov. 10.

"If anyone steps out of line we'll

"I always back any team I'm in

(France) 74.
In Prague: Sparta Prague. (Czech) 84.
Maccabi Ra'anana 81.
At Kfar Blum: Kraka Omato (Slovakia) 84.
95, Hapoel Galil Elyon 84.

"If anyone steps out of line we'll

"I always back any team I'm in

At Kfar Blum: Kraica Omato (Shawana)
95, Hapoel Gali Elyon 84.

At Kfar Blum: Kraica Omato (Shawana)
95, Hapoel Gali Elyon 84.

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THE WEATHER

ISRAEL

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City	Temp
Katzen	21/9
Tiberias	33/16
Haifa	28/19
Netanya	28/19
Ariel	29/15
Tel Aviv	29/19
Jerusalem	28/15
Dead Sea	34/20
Beerseba	30/16
Eilat	32/22

Israel: Plenty of sunshine and warm today. Highs 28-34. Clear tonight. Low 9 in the heights to 22 near the Gulf of Aqaba.

EUROPE WEATHER TODAY

City	Temp
Oslo	10/9
Copenhagen	13/10
Moscow	3/-1
Amsterdam	14/12
London	37/14
Paris	13/9
Berlin	15/9
Warsaw	12/7
Minsk	6/3
Vienna	15/8
Budapest	15/8
Rome	22/11
Madrid	22/9
Athens	24/15
Istanbul	18/11
Antalya	31/14
Nicosea	32/14

Shown is today's weather. Temperatures are today's highs and tonight's lows.

ISRAEL CITIES

City	Today		Friday		Saturday		Sunday	
	High	Low/W	High	Low/W	High	Low/W	High	Low/W
Ariel	28/84	15/59	29/84	17/62	31/88	17/62	31/88	17/62
Beerseba	30/86	16/11	30/86	18/64	32/89	18/64	32/89	18/64
Dead Sea	34/50	20/38	30/57	27/19	34/57	24/75	34/57	22/71
Eilat	32/89	22/16	32/89	22/19	34/90	24/75	34/90	24/75
Haifa	26/82	19/65	30/86	21/70	30/89	23/73	30/86	21/70
Jerusalem	28/82	15/59	29/82	17/62	30/85	17/62	30/86	17/62
Katzen	31/88	94/85	31/88	94/85	33/91	12/53	33/91	12/53
Netanya	26/82	19/65	30/86	21/70	30/89	21/70	30/86	21/70
Tel Aviv	29/84	19/69	31/88	21/70	33/91	23/73	31/88	21/70
Tiberias	33/91	18/51	35/95	18/64	35/95	20/69	35/95	20/69

Weather (W): s=sunny, p=partly cloudy, c=cloudy, a=showers, f=furrows, r=rain, s=snow flurries, s=snow, ice

First Full Last New

Oct 28 Nov 4 Nov 11 Nov 18

INTERNATIONAL CITIES

City	Today		Friday		Saturday	
	High	Low/W	High	Low/W	High	Low/W
Amsterdam	14/57	12/53sh	15/59	64/3sh	15/59	74/4C
Beijing	18/85	42/85	18/85	84/85	19/86	3/7sh
Berlin	15/39	34/8C	16/36	11/59pc	14/57	11/52pc
Brussels	14/57	15/59	15/59	74/4C	16/61	74/4C
Cairo	30/86	26/82	32/89	27/71	32/89	27/71
Chicago	13/55	3/7F	18/64	74/4C	18/64	84/85
Frankfurt	15/59	10/52C	16/61	11/52pc	15/59	11/52pc
Hong Kong	27/80	22/71s	27/80	23/73s	28/82	23/73s
Johannesburg	24/75	14/57C	26/86	18/61s	29/84	16/61sh
London	17/62	14/57sh	18/61	74/4C	19/81	54/1sh
Los Angeles	15/59	12/53	16/61	13/55pc	20/82	13/55pc
Madrid	22/71	44/8	23/73	11/52C	24/75	10/50s
Mexico City	19/86	12/53sh	17/62	94/8C	21/70	94/8C
Montreal	54/3	-13/1C	4/39	3/37sh	16/61	74/4C
Moscow	3/37	-41/31C	7/44	54/1sh	15/59	84/85
New York	11/52	42/85pc	13/55	74/4C	18/64	11/52s
Paris	15/59	14/57	16/61	14/57	17/62	84/85
Prague	13/55					

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صلى على الأهل